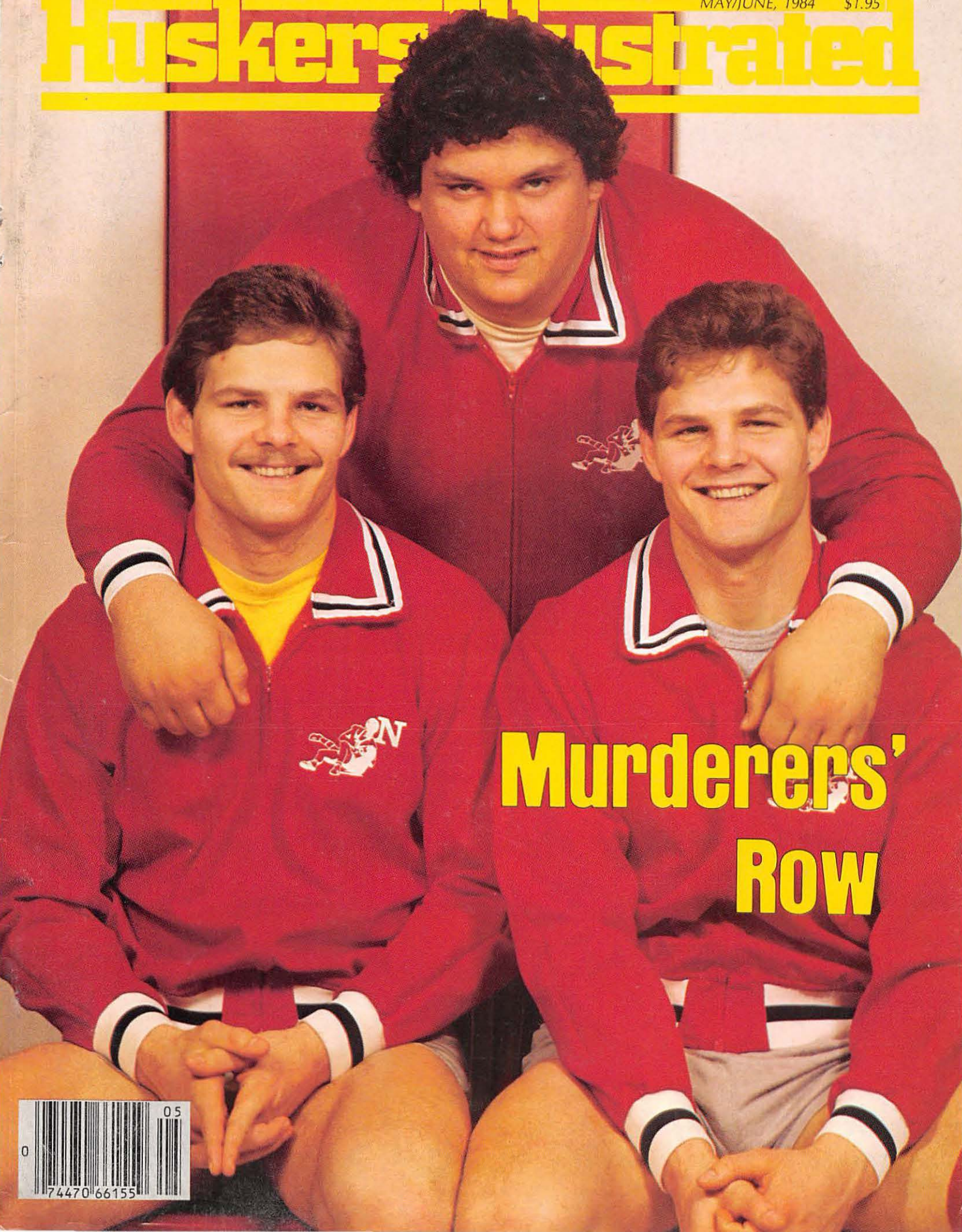


Huskers Illustrated

MAY/JUNE, 1984 \$1.95



Murderers' Row



The heartland is our home



And we're proud of it!

Much like the proverbial acorn, Pamida has grown into a mighty oak — into America's largest employee-owned retail chain! With 167 outlets in 12 midwestern states. Selling quality products at the lowest possible price.

Our commitment has been — and will remain — to our customers. It's been the primary impetus behind our ever-growing expansion. We'll continue to grow right here in the heartland — because the heartland is our home.

PAMIDA
AN EMPLOYEE OWNED COMPANY



Gary Kasper
Lincoln
402/475-8246



Mark Hergenrader
Lincoln
402/488-6618



Pete Hines
Fremont
402/727-1340



Bobbie White
Neligh
402/887-4320



Gary Hoos
Grand Island
308/384-7599



Dick Kratz
Falls City
402/245-4360



Valta Ross, CLU
Aurora
402/694-3600



Rudy Dollison
David City
402/367-3642

SHELTER INSURANCE

Call on us
anytime.

SHIELD
OF
SHELTER

Life • Health
• Home • Car
• Farm • Business

SHIELD
OF
SHELTER

ALL
THE
SHIELD
YOU'LL
EVER
NEED

For more information on the policies and services you can expect from the Shield of Shelter, call any Shelter Insurance Agent.

We'll send you a free copy of the 1984 Shelter Insurance Almanac; just send us your name and address on the coupon below.

Shelter Insurance Companies
P.O. Box 5446
Lincoln, NE 68510

Please send me a free copy of the 1984 Almanac.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State and Zip _____

Phone _____

Bud Ricketts
Hastings
402/463-3003

Lyle Blauvelt
McCook
308/345-5848

Emerald Lindgren
Axtell
308/743-2345

Walt Smith
Ord
308/728-5597

Burt Carter
Chappell
308/874-2595

Lyle Linstrom
Ogallala
308/284-3247

Bonnie Reichenberg
Sutherland
308/386-2314

Ron Van Dyke
Bellevue
402/292-3500



LUCK.



**Don't depend on it
when it comes to protecting
your pets and livestock.**

For the most reliable animal care, see your veterinarian. By training and experience, he is best qualified to protect your animals against sickness and disease.

Helping in this important work is Norden Laboratories. From our Lincoln headquarters, we have been supplying the nation's veterinarians with quality biologicals and pharmaceuticals for more than 60 years. Many of our products are veterinarians' number one choice for controlling common animal diseases. Norden's rabies vaccines and canine heartworm tablets, for example, are used by more veterinarians than any competitive products manufactured for the same diseases.

Other Norden products are for use in food-producing animals. 'Scour-Guard 3' and 'Life-Guard' are used extensively in cattle country for controlling neonatal scours, a chief cause of calf mortality. In the swine belt, 'PR-Vac' is recognized as the most effective vaccine for immunizing pigs against pseudorabies, a costly disease of the central nervous and respiratory system.

These and other fine Norden products are available through your veterinarian. Contact him for the game plan best suited to ensuring your animals' health and productivity.



N
NORDEN
a SmithKline company

601 W. Cornhusker Hwy.
Lincoln, Nebraska 68501

Huskers Illustrated

STAFF

University Sports Publications

Mike Henry
PUBLISHER

Charles Brackin
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Wayne Bishop
MANAGING EDITOR

Melania Carpenter Ross
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Mel Johnson
PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

HUSKERS ILLUSTRATED

Editorial

Tom Ash
EDITOR

Contributing Writers

Randy York
LINCOLN STAR AND JOURNAL

Mike Babcock
LINCOLN STAR AND JOURNAL

Don Pieper

Photography

Randy Hampton
LINCOLN STAR AND JOURNAL

Humberto Ramirez
LINCOLN STAR AND JOURNAL

Ted Kirk

Dave Finn

Huskers Illustrated (ISSN 0279-3474) is published twenty (20) times annually, weekly in September, October and November except twice weekly the first week in October and the first week in November and monthly in January, March, May, June, August and December by University Sports Publications, Inc., 7418 E. 42 Place, Tulsa, OK., 74145. Second class postage paid at Tulsa, Oklahoma and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to the Huskers Illustrated, Circulation Office, P.O. Box 83222, Lincoln, NE., 68501.

Subscriptions — \$29.95 per year. Nebraska residents add 4 percent sales tax. For subscription information, write the Huskers Illustrated, Box 83222, Lincoln, NE., 68501. A percentage of the subscription proceeds will be donated to the University of Nebraska Athletic Department.

Permission to reprint material contained in this magazine must be obtained in writing from the Publisher.

For editorial and advertising information, as well as subscription service, phone 918-664-0088. Lithoed in Canada.



17



40



44

Murderers' Row wins two

16

Jim and Bill Scherr become first Husker wrestling champions in 21 years, with Gary Albright second and Nebraska fourth in NCAA meet.

it's his spotlight now

22

Craig Sundberg has patiently waited his chance to show what he can do as the Nebraska quarterback. Now that Turner Gill is gone, he has his opportunity.

'Mama's Boy' makes good

28

Neil Harris has proven to everyone — particularly the Oklahoma Sooners — that he can play football in major college.

worth coming back for

34

Jeff Anderson almost turned pro after his junior year at Nebraska. But he came back for his senior year to become the Huskers' all-time winningest pitcher.

champions again!

40

Nebraska's women's track team gets big mileage from a sprint sweep and great performances from Thacker and Ottey to win another NCAA title.

Craig makes the NFL transition

44

His foundation was built at Nebraska, and it's paid off for Roger with the San Francisco 49ers. Just ask Harper!

winning doesn't come easy

50

Nebraska's football coaches put hours and hours of work into preparation for each game. And it pays off!

Huskers are bigger, stronger again

56

Nebraska's winter conditioning program does it again! Final exams prove this team is tuned up for another championship run.

Letters

8

Potpourri

10

Opinion

6

On the cover

Around the Big Eight Conference they picked up the moniker "Murderers' Row." They dominated the upper weights in the most dominant wrestling conference in the land. But the nationals, that was something else. Nebraska had not claimed an NCAA individual championship since Mike Nissen was crowned in 1963. Twenty-one years. Jim Scherr (seated right), competing in the 177-pound finals at the New Jersey Meadowlands, started the historic evening for the Huskers by winning his gold medal and ending the drought. In the next match, 190, Jim's twin brother Bill (left) made it two in a row. Then heavyweight Gary Albright, shown hovering above his teammates, nearly completed the triple, losing 3-1 to the unbeaten champion in the finals. Meet these history-making Huskers in Don Pieper's story beginning on Page 16. Photo by Randy Hampton.

in the next issue...

You won't want to miss a complete report from spring practice, plus features on basketball recruiting and the NCAA gymnastics championships. Those stories and more.

Opinions



Ask Tom Osborne

If you have questions for Coach Tom Osborne, write to the *Huskies Illustrated*, Box 83222, Lincoln, Neb., 68501. We reserve the right to select only those questions we feel appropriate.

Assuming a lower court ruling is upheld and schools are allowed to negotiate their own football television packages, instead of being bound by the NCAA contract, what is that likely to do to the game?

"As far as the Georgia-Oklahoma ruling, of course, that won't be final probably until this summer. The Supreme Court has heard the arguments but has not rendered a decision.

"What that would do is anybody's guess. It might enhance the situation of schools that are traditionally strong in football, that have sold-out situations. It certainly opens up the possibility of pay TV, those kinds of things that could be fairly lucrative.

"On the other hand, it may create less parity. If they're able to keep such things as the 30-95 (annual and total scholarship limits) rule and the coaching staff limits. All these things still create a certain amount of parity.

"It isn't like if we generate another \$3 or \$4 million in revenue off television or whatever, we could go out and spend that money on an extra 100 football players' scholarships or go hire five more coaches.

"Where it might help is in facilities, where you may put some of that back into your physical plant, and that in return, indirectly, helps your recruiting. But there are still some safeguards that would prevent people from making a lot more money.

"For instance, Michigan, theoretically, should have a much better football program than anybody because they seat 100,000, and they sell it out, and they get as much TV income as anybody. And yet, I don't think they're guaranteed any better season because of it, primarily because of the 30-95 rule and the coaching limitation and so on.

"So I guess right now, it's really uncharted water. If the Supreme Court does uphold the lower court ruling and all the schools have their own television and broadcast rights, it might mean even less money for everybody.

"It's quite apt to mean less money to some of the schools that don't draw well and aren't national-type programs as far as public interest is concerned."

The National Football League has had a long-standing hands-off policy concerning undergraduates. The United States Football League has created a stir by signing big names like Herschel Walker and Marcus Dupree, who had college eligibility remaining. Is the USFL a threat to the college game?

"I hate to see that (early pro signings). We have it in college basketball, but basketball is a sport that relies heavily on natural talent. Many

of the players can come in and play very well as freshmen. You see some freshman football players who can play well, but I think percentage-wise, football is a more developmental sport, where most players are more productive in their junior and senior years.

"Therefore, I think the NFL really recognized that the colleges are the 'farm' teams the baseball people used to have, and they've had a hands-off policy and waited for the players to graduate from college, or at least until their class graduated.

"The USFL I see as being somewhat of a problem in that they're obviously thinking about disrupting that system, but even more damaging the way I see it is, there are players who are leaving school at mid-year of their senior year, and they're going into the USFL, and a fairly large percentage of them are cut and don't make the team.

"They're out of football in February, and, in the meantime, they can't go back to school, and it's my understanding that the NCAA says that a player under contract can't receive a scholarship.

"So the player is somewhat stymied on his education. There are very few times that I have known of when the USFL has guaranteed the player's education. If he doesn't make the team, he's out.

"Obviously, the (USFL) draft being held Jan. 4, or whenever they're going to have it, being so close to the end of the college season, particularly the bowl games, it really has impinged upon, it squeezes, the college player even harder.

"You start having things happen like they did with Mike Rozier, where the top choices are being talked to by USFL teams before the bowl games, sounding them out. They don't want to draft somebody No. 1 if the player is not interested in going to the USFL. And it intensifies the activities of the agents because they're trying to get players to commit before the USFL draft comes about.

"It's gotten to become a competitive thing between the NFL and USFL. The dollar amounts they're throwing around do make it kind of hard for players to concentrate when they go into the bowl period. The possibility of some of them signing for millions of dollars in a week's time makes it harder.

"Generally, from the standpoint of a college football coach, the impact of the USFL has probably not been a positive one. It has created more professional opportunities for players, which is probably good. It has created more coaching jobs, which is probably not bad.

"I question whether it hasn't over-exposed football. Football in the spring in some ways may dilute the impact of football in the fall and cause revenues and television interest to drop.

"But I guess everybody's just waiting to see. If the USFL and NFL take off on a wholesale bidding war and start going after underclassmen, I feel it would be very bad for college football."•



Virgil C. Wadhams
Lincoln
(402) 488-9092



Donald L. Hunter
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



David M. LeGrand
Nebraska City
(402) 873-6365



Ron Rapp, CLU, RHU
South Sioux City
(402) 494-3003



Wm. S. "Pen"
Butterfield, CLU
Omaha
(402) 391-8585



F. Joseph Vlock, CLU
Omaha
(402) 333-9500



Lyle W. Japp, CHFC
Omaha
(402) 333-9500

Ask me. How to get extra life insurance at no extra cost-despite inflation.

Lincoln General Office:

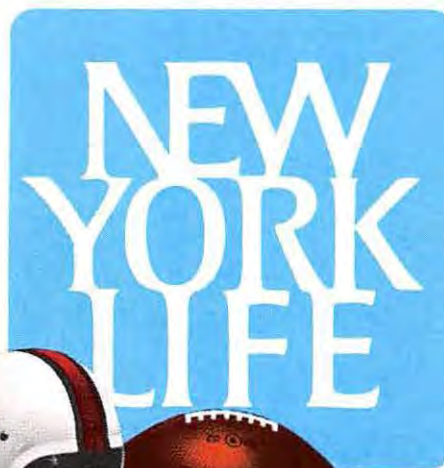
Mel Adema, General Mgr.
Michael L. Bergstrom, CLU, Office Mgr.
Robert L. Nelson, CLU, Training Supv.
1506 First National Bank Bldg.
Lincoln, Neb. 68508

Nebraska General Office:

Duane D. Demaree, CLU, General Mgr.
Glenn E. Bartley, Jr., CLU, Office Mgr.
11704 West Center Road
Suite 200
Omaha, Neb. 68144

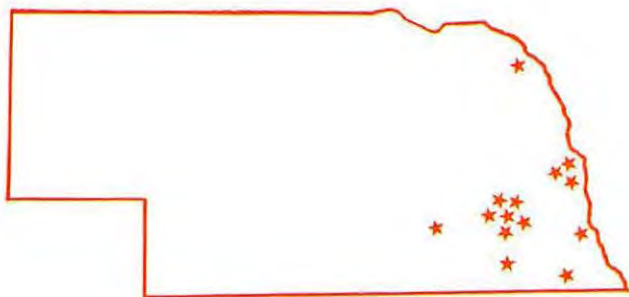
Omaha General Office:

Eugene J. Malson, CLU, General Mgr.
Lenis Grauf, CLU, Office Mgr.
Tim J. Arnold, Training Supv.
10050 Regency Circle
Omaha, Neb. 68508



Life, Health, Disability Income, Group Insurance,
Annuities, Pension Plans.

New York Life. For all of your life.



New York Life Insurance Co.
1506 First National Bank Bldg.
Lincoln, Neb. 68508

Please send me information on how to get extra life insurance at no extra cost-despite inflation.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____



Kurt P. Kollmorgen, SN
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Karl L. Kollmorgen
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



John R. Chittick, CLU
Falls City
(402) 245-5939



Leland R. Thiessen
Henderson
(402) 723-4400



John C. Horner, Sr.
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575



Donald F. Killman, CLU
Beatrice
(402) 228-3615



William S. Jones, Jr.
Lincoln
(402) 476-8575

Letters



Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I was born in Sidney, Neb., and lived in Little Lodgepole for two years, then moved to Colorado. I am a big Nebraska football fan.

I think the Huskers played a great Orange Bowl game, and Osborne's decision to go for the two and the win was a good one. Even though Nebraska was ranked No. 2, to me the Huskers are still No. 1. Good luck next year.

Jeff Huerta,
Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

Want to let you know how much my family and I enjoy *Huskers Illustrated* here in Texas. We hear plenty about Texas and SMU, but not much about N.U. and the best football program in the U.S.

The weekly magazine is really used. Keep up the good work.

M. D. "Marv" Thompson
Dallas, Tex.

Member of the 1941 Rose Bowl team.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I have just finished listening to the Nebraska-Xavier basketball game, and I think the Huskers did very well in losing by only one point.

I read the Lincoln newspaper, and a journalist wrote an article that said Xavier has two players who have very good chances of being picked in the first five rounds of the professional basketball draft.

Xavier, after beating Nebraska by only one point, has 15 wins compared to no losses at home. I don't feel that the team that has always had my support, win or lose, has received all of the credit it deserves.

The Huskers played Oklahoma to eight points and lost to Kansas by a shot in the last 10 seconds in two of their last three regular-season games (both teams went to the NCAA tournament).

All in all, the Huskers are a young team. Good luck next year.

Jeff Ramsbottom
Hebron, Neb.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I have enjoyed my subscription for three years now. It is a terrific package of Nebraska football and sports in general.

However, I liked the way you made your booklet (weekly football updates) before better than you do now.

I felt you had a better quality of pictures and more pictures before.

Also, are there any Nebraska football calendars like you made last year? I thought that was a good

idea.

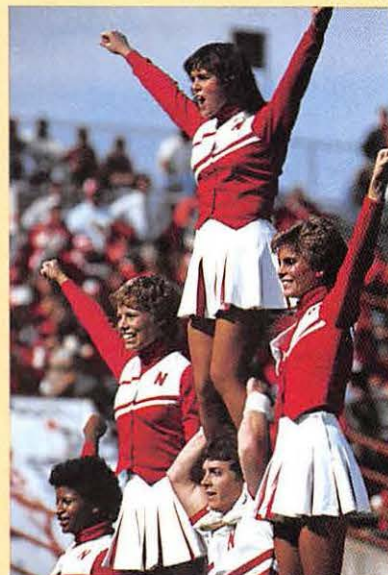
Ron Bosak
Omaha, Neb.

• Sorry, we did not issue a football calendar for the 1984 season as we did the previous year. Perhaps we will bring this offer back in 1985. Thanks for your interest.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I would like to know where to send to get Nebraska football tickets.

Randy Cadwallader
Des Moines, Iowa



• Tickets may be ordered by writing the Athletic Ticket Office, P. O. Box 82848, Lincoln, Neb., 68501.

Please be advised, however, that a few facts of life exist regarding Cornhusker football tickets. Facts are that the Huskers have played to 130 consecutive sellouts at home — an NCAA record. That translates into heavy demand for tickets.

"You hate to discourage people, but..." Ticket Manager Helen Ruth Wagner said. "We have many, many contributors to our various scholarship programs and (booster) clubs. If any tickets are available, the orders will be filled by priority.

"Priorities will be given to those contributors,

If you have questions or comments, you may write the BIG RED MAILBAG, Box 83222, Lincoln, NE 68501.

but there are no guarantees there, either. We accept no memberships with that in mind."

No orders will be accepted after June 1, which is two weeks earlier than in previous years, and Mrs. Wagner emphasized that those ordering tickets must re-order each year; there are no standing orders or waiting lists — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I am renewing my Huskers mag as I am still a Husker fan, even with (Roger) Craig and (Jamie) Williams graduated. They were from my area (Davenport, Iowa), as you know.

A few suggestions: I was a little disappointed that this year there were no junior varsity stats like you had last year and also you did not list in any of them where and how much the Media Guide was.

The year before, you listed the address and the price, and I really enjoyed it.

Also, if you would list at least some of the 40 or more redshirts. I have never figured out what happened to QB Pernell Gatson. He was not in the spring game last year, but you never mentioned if he was hurt or left school.

Edward V. Anderson
Moline, Ill.

- A junior varsity season roundup, including final statistics ran in the April issue.

The Football Media Guides, produced by Don Bryant's Sports Information Office, sold out quickly, and mentioning it would have produced orders that could not be filled. Those who want to get a jump on it next summer my contact the SID office, 116 South Stadium, UNL, Lincoln, Neb. 68588 or 402-472-2263.

We have shied away from printing lists of redshirts because the football coaches say the numbers are used against them in recruiting. Gatson, the quarterback from Omaha Central, was redshirted last season and was switched to wingback this spring — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

To Coach Osborne: The moral and academic standards promoted by you, your staff and Dr. (Ursula) Walsh give me great pride in being an alum of the U. of N., 1930.

G. L. Bennett
Hot Springs Village, Ark.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

If you could send me some information on NU's football camp, it would be greatly appreciated. I and many of my high school teammates would like to attend.

Andy Garrison
Toledo, Iowa

- Sessions for the 1984 Big Red Football School, conducted by the Cornhusker football coaching staff, will be May 27-30, May 30-June 2 and June 3-6. Enrollment is limited, so early applications are urged.

The camp, on the Husker campus, is open to boys who will be in grades 9 through 12 this fall. The cost is \$110, and an advanced deposit of \$55 must accompany each application. The price includes housing and meals at Abel Residence Hall.

Futher information and applications may be obtained by writing: Big Red Football School, 217 South Stadium, Lincoln, Neb. 68588 — ED.

Dear Big Red Mailbag:

I've been reading through the 1983 Football Guide and on page 267 under "Nebraska Frosh Season Records," Will Curtis is listed for eight TDs and 48 points in 1981. What has happened to him?

Warren Isaacson
Holdrege, Neb.

- Curtis was a walkon I-back from Bahio, Md., who was redshirted last season, ran into financial problems and dropped out of school to join the National Guard. He is trying to earn enough money to try it again — ED.





Jack Moore — best little man in the country.

Inside Husker sports

Oklahoman walks on

Even though there is such a thing as "Oklahomans for Nebraska," it's a booster group, not a talent pool.

Or at least it was until Craig Satepauhoodle decided to walk on at Nebraska.

Satepauhoodle, an all-state player on a small-class state championship team from Hominy, Okla., may have started the whole thing.

A full-blooded Indian, he spurned a Big Eight football scholarship offer from Kansas to walk on at Nebraska.

"I've been a Nebraska fan since I was a little kid, watching Larry Jacobson," said Satepauhoodle, a 6-foot-2, 265-pound offensive tackle and middle guard.

Vince Ferragamo, Rick Berns and the Pillen brothers, Clete and Jim, have been other Cornhusker favorites of Satepauhoodle.

"I don't know why. But I've always rooted for Nebraska," he said. "Finally, I figured as much as I like Nebraska, I might as well go there."

About 50 other players signed national letters of intent to walk on at Nebraska without the aid of an athletic scholarship.

One new Husker walkon is Charles Fryar, a 5-11, 172-pound running back-defensive back from Burlington, N.J., and cousin of former NU All-American wingback Irving Fryar.

Other out-of-state 1984 walkons include John Auxier, a 6-3, 215-pound center from Park Hill High School in Kansas City; Greg Drummond, a 6-2, 245-pound offensive and defensive tackle from La Marque, Texas (the same school as scholarship quarterback Wendell Wooten); Shawn Giordano, a 6-1, 210-pound fullback-linebacker from Highland, N.Y.; Corey Grobe, a 6-4, 215-pound tight end-fullback from Oakland, Iowa; and Jeff Wheeler, a 5-11, 172-pound running back from Urbandale, Iowa.

Players walking on from Nebraska high schools include:

Mike Allen, 6-4, 246, OT-DT, Lincoln High; Jeff Anderson, 6-3, 230, C-DT, Norfolk; Mark Blazek, 6-2, 175, DB-WB, Raymond Central; Kurt Broer, 6-3, 195, TE-DE, Lincoln Pius X; Brad Buller, 5-11, 175, DB, Henderson.

Kelly Carl, 6-0, 165, SE-DB, Greta; Timothy Cravens, 6-3, 200, OT-DT, Nebraska City; Tony Cromartie, 5-11, 168, DB, Omaha North; John Dostal, 5-10, 175, QB, Omaha Gross; Jim Ernest, 6-4, 250, OG-MG, Leyton.

Paul Fix, 6-3, 225, DT-OT, Lincoln Pius X; Steven Garbe, 6-2, 205, C-DT, Omaha Bryan; Jim Gruenewald, 6-2, 205, LB, David City; Tim Hayes, 6-5, 210, DT, Pierce; Kevin Hinton, 6-0, 180, DB, Medicine Valley.

John Janacek, 6-1, 200, OG, Lincoln Southeast; Bob Kenney, 5-11, 155, SE, Minden; Steve Kirk, 6-1, 180, DE, Lincoln East; Barry Kitrell, 5-10, 195, FB-LB, Ashland; Shane Kuchta, 6-1, 190, DB-DE, Hartington Cedar Catholic.

Duane Larabee, 5-10, 175, K, Raymond Central; Ben Lehr, 6-3, 215, OG, Omaha Central; Don Lilly, 5-11, 199, FB-LB, Bellevue West; Matthew Liske, 6-2, 195, DE, Omaha Benson; Jon Marco, 6-1, 185, DB, Bellevue West.

Mike Martin, 6-2, 210, K, Omaha Creighton Prep; Scott McGill, 6-0, 198, FB, Waverly; Jeff Micheel, 6-1, 170, DB, Ainsworth; Timothy Mikulicz, 6-5, 265, OT-DT, Omaha Creighton Prep; Brian Miller, 6-0, 220, FB-LB, Superior.

Joe Mixan, 6-4, 215, OT-DT, Omaha Gross; John Nelson, 6-1, 195, OG-LB, Minden; Tom Nelson, 5-10, 175, QB-DB, Columbus; Tim Nootz, 6-3, 220, OT-DT, Millard South; John Pavelka, 6-2, 185, DE, Verdigre; David Payne, 5-11, 185, K, Omaha Gross.

Sean Putnam, 6-4, 240, MG, O'Neill; Brent Schott, 6-0, 173, WB-DB, Palmyra; Terry Seawall, 6-1, 170, WB-DB, Waverly; Kurt Skradis, 6-3, 240, OG-DT, Omaha Bryan; John Strasheim, 6-0, 220, OG, Lincoln East.

Jim Toner, 6-0, 180, QB, Grand Island; Brent VonEssen, 5-11, 180, WB-DB, Oakland-Craig; Mark Widlowski, 5-10, 165, DB, Millard North; Kevin Yost, 6-1, 180, TE-DB, Tri-Country....

A splashing success

Like Old Man River, the Nebraska men's swimming and diving team just keeps rolling along.

But Cal Bentz's men aren't the only ones making a splash in the Bob Devaney Sports Center pool.

Ray Huppert's NU women swimmers are also making waves and it's not unrealistic to expect them to end the domination of Kansas.

The Jayhawk women recently won their 10th straight Big Eight swimming and diving championship, scoring 645 points.

The Nebraska women were second with 542½. They were also second last year, but this runner-up finish was different, a lot different.

Last year, Nebraska finished 427 points behind Kansas. This year, the difference was 102½ points. In other words, the Husker women reduced the deficit by almost 75 percent.

In 10 years, it is the closest they have ever finished to the Jayhawks.

"I'm very proud of our performance," said Huppert. "I think it shows the direction our program is heading. I know one thing. We're looking forward to hosting next year's championships."

The Huskers claimed five individual championships in the Big Eight meet. Two freshmen and two sophomores figured into those five championships.

Susan Cashman, a freshman from Plantation Gardens, Fla., won the 500 freestyle in 4:55.83 and the 400 Individual Medley in 4:28.60. Dana Powers, a fellow freshman from Tacoma, Wash., won the 50 free in :23.70.

Marcia Heaton, a sophomore from Ralston, Neb., won the one-meter diving competition with a score of 387.80. Emily Ricketts, a sophomore from Irvine, Calif., won the 200 free with a 1:50.36.

The Husker women qualified nine swimmers and divers for the NCAA meet in Indianapolis. In addition to the individual champions, NU advanced its 200, 400 and 800 freestyle relay teams and its 200 and 400 medley relay teams.

While the Huskers strive to reduce the gap in women's swimming, they are trying to maintain their dominance in men's swimming.

Nebraska won its fifth straight Big Eight championship in Lawrence, Kan., totaling 504½ points to easily outdistance runner-up Iowa State, with 381.

"If you look through the results of the past five Big Eight meets, this may be the least number of champions we've had," Bentz said. "But even though we didn't have the heavy hitters who swept individual awards, we still were able to dominate. If that doesn't spell a team victory, then I don't know what does."

The Huskers claimed only four individual champions. Two of them were posted by divers, tutored by Big Eight Diving Coach of the Year Jeff Huber.

Eric Ognibene, a sophomore from San Antonio, Texas, won the one-meter competition with a score of 457.35. Reynaldo Castro, a junior from the Dominican Republic, won the three-meter com-



Marcia Heaton

petition with a score of 561.70.

Tim Brinner, a sophomore from Bartlesville, Okla., won the 100 breaststroke in a time of :56.89. Ernie Duran, a freshman from Fresno, Calif., won the 1650 freestyle with a clocking of 15:47.01.

Duran nipped Iowa State's Jens Nielsen in the last five yards by .02 of a second. Duran was the first Husker in history to break 16 minutes in the 1650.

Even though the Nebraska men had never won a distance event in their recent Big Eight reign, the Huskers finished 1-3-5-6 in the 1650 free.

All four NU place-finishers in the 1650 were freshmen. Bentz sees that as a sign that the Huskers are ready to transform their weaknesses into strengths.

Brinner, Castro and Ognibene all qualified for the NCAA meet in Cleveland....

Ex-Husker dies

Former Nebraska football standout Rufus "Rufe" Dewitz died March 20 in St. Charles, Ill.

Dewitz, 83, played in the 1923 NU backfield with his brother, Herb. Both figured into the scoring of Nebraska's 14-7 upset win over Notre Dame when the famed Four Horsemen were juniors.

Rufus threw a touchdown pass to Dave Noble in that game and Herb kicked both extra points. Rufus went on to a long coaching career in the Illinois high school ranks....



Big Eight champs, from left, rear, Keith Moore, David Hecker, Ernie Duran and Tim Brinner; front, Dana Powers, Emily Ricketts and Susan Cashman.

Kiffin joins Bills

Former Nebraska Defensive Coordinator Monte Kiffin has been named linebacker coach for the Buffalo Bills in the National Football League.

Kiffin, 43, was also former defensive coordinator at Arkansas and head coach at North Carolina State. He was linebacker coach for the Green Bay Packers in his first season in the NFL last year.

Kiffin joins the staff of Bills' head coach Kay Stephenson. Buffalo's former quarterback coach, Stephenson is in his second season as head coach after Chuck Knox left Buffalo for Seattle....

Jack Moore dies

Former All-Big Eight guard Jack Moore, the seventh-leading scorer in Nebraska basketball history, was killed in an airplane crash near Cozad, Neb., on March 3.

It took a two-day search to discover the body of Moore, who was traveling in a light airplane with pilot Gary Johnson.

Johnson, a North Platte, Neb., stockbroker and Moore's boss, also was killed in the crash.

Johnson was 47 and Moore 24. The two were flying home to North Platte from a business trip in Moore's hometown of Muncie, Ind.

Their plane flew into a snowstorm. Johnson, who was not qualified in instrument piloting, lost

control of the aircraft when he tried to fly back to Kearney after being unable to land in North Platte.

Johnson, a former Nebraska high school basketball coach in Cozad, Imperial, McCook and Ralston, was described by Nebraska Coach Moe Iba as his closest personal friend.

Iba also described Moore as a close friend after his graduation from Nebraska, where he received the 1982 Naismith Award as the nation's outstanding collegiate basketball player under 6 feet tall.

Even though he was only 5-9, Moore scored 1,204 career points at Nebraska. He finished with the second best career free throw percentage in NCAA basketball history....

Huskers finish 18-12

Despite an up-and-down regular season, the Nebraska men's basketball team finished 18-12 and made a respectable run at a return trip to the NIT Final Four in New York.

At one point, the Huskers were 4-6 in the Big Eight Conference and virtually counted out of finishing in the league's upper division.

But three straight wins allowed Nebraska to finish third in the league with a 7-7 record.

After losing a 41-39 homecourt decision to Kan-



People you love are counting on you. You need someone to count on, too.

You can count on us, as millions of Americans do. We'll be there with the money, to help pay those hospital and doctor bills. We'll provide you with money to meet everyday living expenses if you're laid up and can't work. We'll insure your health, your home, your car and your life with protection that pays maximum benefits at minimum cost. And, when it comes to caring and being of service, well, that's what has made Mutual of Omaha the largest individual and family health insurance company in the whole wide world. The

Mutual of Omaha Family of Companies... providing insurance and financial services to people of all ages and to groups both large and small.



People you can count on...

Life Insurance Affiliate:
United of Omaha

Companion Life Insurance Company • Kirkpatrick, Pettis, Smith, Polian Inc. • Mutual of Omaha Fund Management Company • Omaha Indemnity • Tele-Trip Company
• Omaha Financial Life Insurance Company • Constitution Insurance Company of Canada • Mutual of Omaha International Ltd., London, England

Represented in Omaha by R.D. Marcotte & Associates



Debra Powell

sas State in the first round of the Big Eight playoffs, the Huskers received another bid to the NIT.

Sent to arch-rival Creighton, where they faced a sold-out crowd, the Huskers escaped with a 56-54 upset win over the Bluejays.

Dave Hoppen keyed the attack with 25 points. His three-point play with 10 seconds remaining was the difference.

Nebraska not only got the three-point play, but also the ball out-of-bounds when Benoit Benjamin, Creighton's 7-1 All-Missouri Valley Conference center, was whistled for a technical foul.

Benjamin, who scored 23 points, slammed the ball to the ground when he didn't stop Hoppen in the closing seconds.

The Huskers were then sent to Cincinnati for the NIT's second round. They lost to Xavier, 58-57, before a crowd of 9,517 at the Cincinnati Gardens.

Xavier, 22-10, fell one point short of making the NIT's Final Four with a 63-62 loss at Michigan in the third round.

As he did all season, Hoppen led Nebraska's scoring with 22 points against Xavier.

The Huskers' 6-11 sophomore center established himself as one of college basketball's brightest young stars. He led the Big Eight in field goal percentage (.594) and ranked second behind Oklahoma All-American Wayman Tisdale with a 20.7-point average in 14 conference games.

To no one's surprise, Hoppen was a first-team All-Big Eight selection by both Associated Press

and United Press International. He was also named All-NCAA District 5 by the United States Basketball Writers Association.

Oklahoma's Billy Tubbs, the Big Eight Coach of the Year, gave Nebraska's center one of his finest tributes. "Dave Hoppen is probably the best pure center in the Big Eight and by the time he leaves Nebraska, he could be the best pure center in the country," Tubbs said.

With 1,043 points, Hoppen became the 11th Nebraska player to score 1,000 points in his career. He is the first to reach that total in his first two seasons.

Despite his enormous success, Hoppen is not satisfied. "Right now, if I'm going to look at playing any basketball after college, I've got to start working on basketball every day," he said. "If I don't improve over the summer, I'll stay where I'm at right now."

Stan Cloudy, one of three seniors who finished their Husker careers this season, (David Ponce and Eric Williams are the others) was named to AP's second-team All-Big Eight team.

NU forward John Matzke, who was featured in *Huskers Illustrated* two issues ago, was named Academic All-Big Eight. The sophomore from Lincoln High has a 3.78 grade-point-average in math education....

Benson records a first

Kelli Benson, a senior guard on the Nebraska women's basketball team, can be considered a pioneer of sorts. She is the first NU female athlete ever to receive Academic All-American status in any sport.

Benson, a former Nebraska Girl High School Athlete of the Year from Grand Island, was named a third-team Academic All-American by the NCAA.

A physical education major who wants to teach and coach either high school basketball or volleyball, Benson has a 3.78 grade-point-average.

"When I first came to college, I guess I just decided I was going to put some priorities in line and really study," Benson said.

"I didn't want to let sports be my whole life. There are too many ups and downs. I wanted to give my studies the same kind of dedication. I knew basketball was only going to last four years. Your education lasts forever."

Benson, of course, also made the 1984 women's Big Eight All-Academic team. Joining her was teammate Cathy Owen.

A junior guard from Buena High School in Ventura, Calif., Owen had a 3.66 grade-point-average in business.

"I want to get my master's degree in athletic administration and remain involved in sports," said Owen, who brought a 3.85 GPA from high school into college....

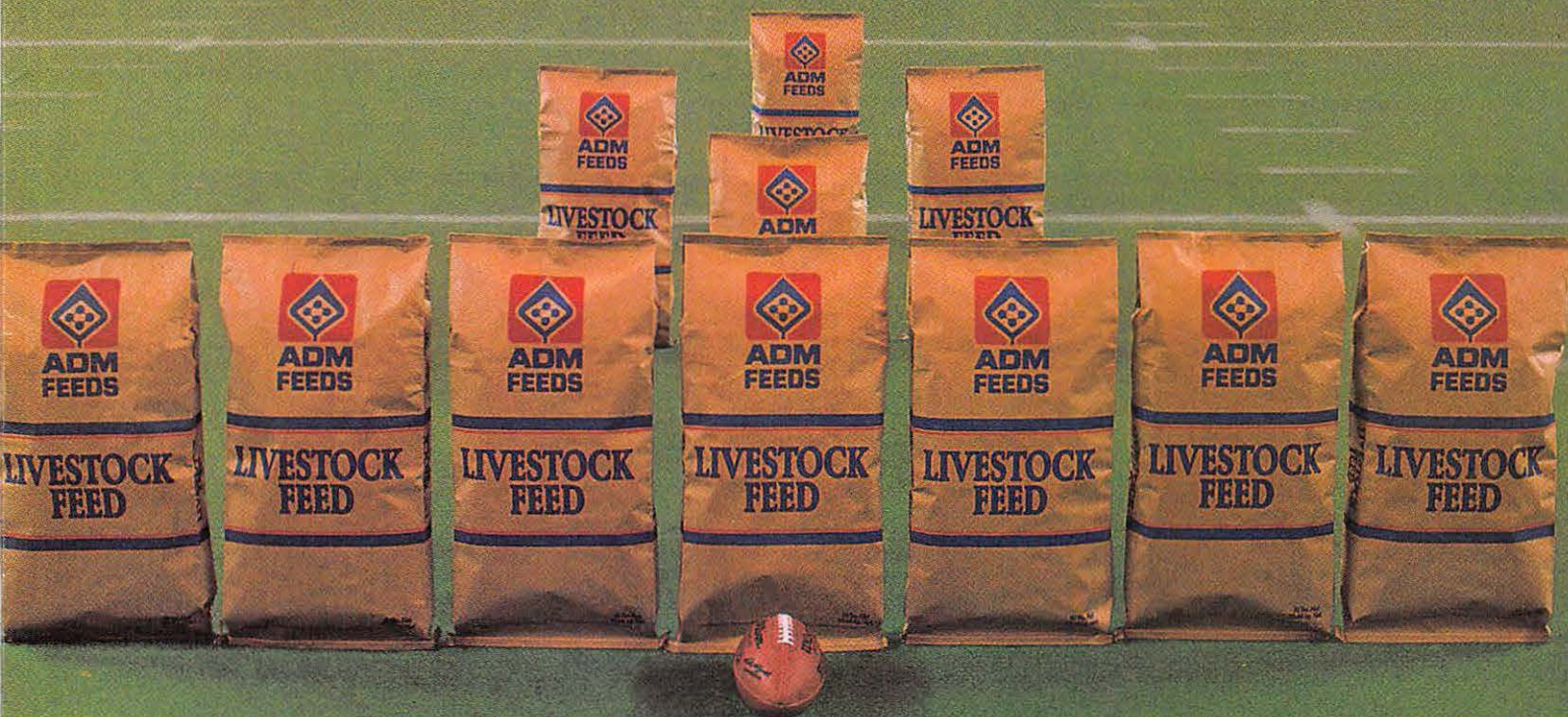
Powell All-Big Eight

Now that Debra Powell has climbed the ladder of individual success, making the All-Big Eight

Continued on Page 60

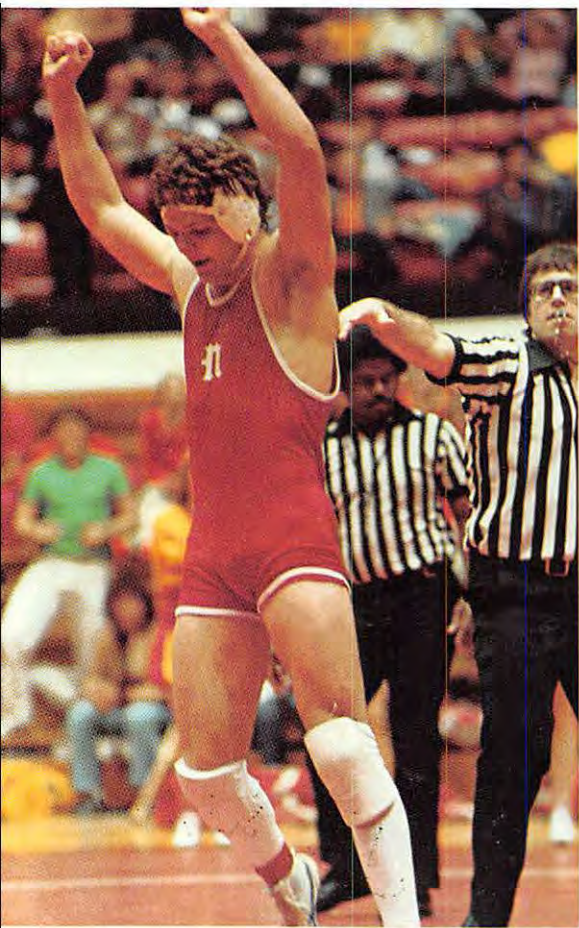


NOBODY PUTS A BETTER TEAM ON
THE FIELD THAN ADM FEEDS.



EXCEPT MAYBE NEBRASKA.



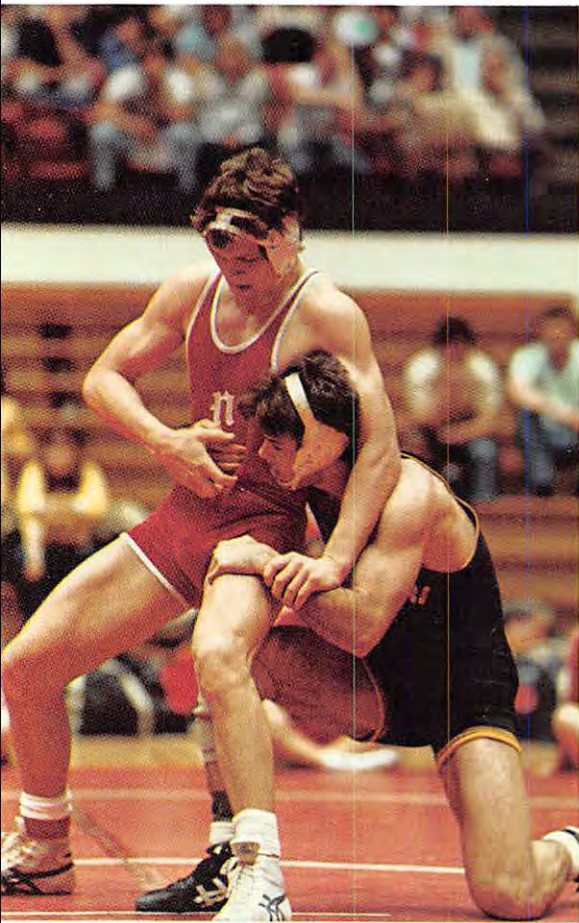


Jim Scherr (top photo) became Nebraska's first national wrestling champ in 21 years, and brother Bill (lower photo) quickly followed by winning next match in the finals.

NU All-American Boys First Champs In 21 Years

Scherr twins bring national championships home to Mobridge and Lincoln; Albright's 2nd helps give NU highest finish in history.

By Don Pieper



They used to tumble around the house like puppies. Well, not quite like puppies. They confess to knocking a hole in a wall and busting a door.

To gain some semblance of order, the family would clear away the furniture in a basement room and, with dad refereeing and grandpa timing, let the young pups wrestle on the rug.

"We had to be careful and not let them go too long," Mom says. "They were always very competitive."

Indeed.

"They'd have some real knock-down, drag-outs in practice," their high school wrestling coach says. "It got so bad once that we had to stop them from working out with each other for four or five practices."

A high school teammate remembers: "One time, one of them was on the bot-

tom — I think it was Jim, but it could have been Bill — and he had to bite his brother to get him off because he couldn't breathe. It was kind of a war when they'd work out."

Their college coach says the brothers "get into squabbles all the time — they argue all the time they're wrestling in practice, and they keep score in their heads."

What are these guys, savages?

Hardly.

"They are good boys," Jan Scherr says of her twins. "They got in trouble once for throwing snowballs at cars, but that is the only time. They both are involved in Christian athletic activities down in Lincoln. We're very proud of them — and of all our kids (five sons and four daughters)."

Coach Rod Moon, who credits Jim and Bill Scherr with helping him make high

school wrestling a big deal in Mobridge, S.D., said the twins "are two standout young men in every sense. They were always on the honor roll." They both won state wrestling titles. Jim was All-State in football. Bill was injured as a senior, or he might have been All-State, too. But Bill did place among the top five in four events (pole vault, discus, shot and high jump) in the state track meet.

"They were totally dedicated to winning, but they were humble winners," Moon said, "and they understood how to accept — and learn from — defeat. They were good role models."

Todd Ford, a friend and teammate of the Scherr brothers from fourth grade through high school, said, "They're just great. They are good at everything they do, athletically and otherwise."

Says Bob Fehrs, the Nebraska wrestling coach whose team finished fourth in the NCAA tournament this year as the Scherr twins each won national championships:

"They are your absolute all-American boy types. They don't smoke. They don't drink. They are very religious. They are the type of young men that, if a coach could get a group of them and keep them coming, he'd never retire. He'd want to coach till he died. They are hard-working, earnest, trustworthy, loyal.

I've been a coach 16 years, and I've had other people who had more natural talent than they have, but there has been nobody who put together the determination and concentration they do."

Fehrs said that when the Scherrs arrived, there was a two-time national junior college champion in Jim's weight class, 167. "Jim couldn't quite beat him, so he cut to 158. For someone his size, this was a tremendous cut. But he was going to make our team, somehow. Whatever it took, he was going to do it. He not only made the team, he did very well."

Moon, the twins' prep coach, reflects on the Scherr mind set: "Bill has an attitude that he absolutely can't be beaten, physically, mentally or emotionally. He refuses to believe that he will lose. He's always had that attitude. It's an ideal attitude for life."

"Everybody at the collegiate level has an intensity and a desire to win," Fehrs said. "They (the Scherr brothers) have enough to prepare to win. They are just as intense during training as they are during actual competition. That's why they are winners."

Bill Scherr said he likes "the one-on-one challenge of wrestling. It's you and the other guy — a contest of wills. If you're tougher than the other guy, you'll win. It takes a different kind of athlete to meet that

challenge."

The Scherrs compete in the classroom just as fiercely as on the mat, Fehrs said. "The dumb one has a 3.52 average (out of 4.0), and the other one is 3.64," he said, without identifying the "dumb one." Jim is a three-time Academic All-Big Eight wrestler, and Bill has been so honored four times.

Their collegiate eligibility is over; they will be graduated in December: Jim as a finance major in the College of Business Administration and Bill as a social science major in Teachers College.

The national championships the Scherrs won at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N. J., in March — only Mike Nissen in 1963 had ever won a national collegiate title for the Huskers — may have caused more celebrating in Mobridge than in Lincoln.

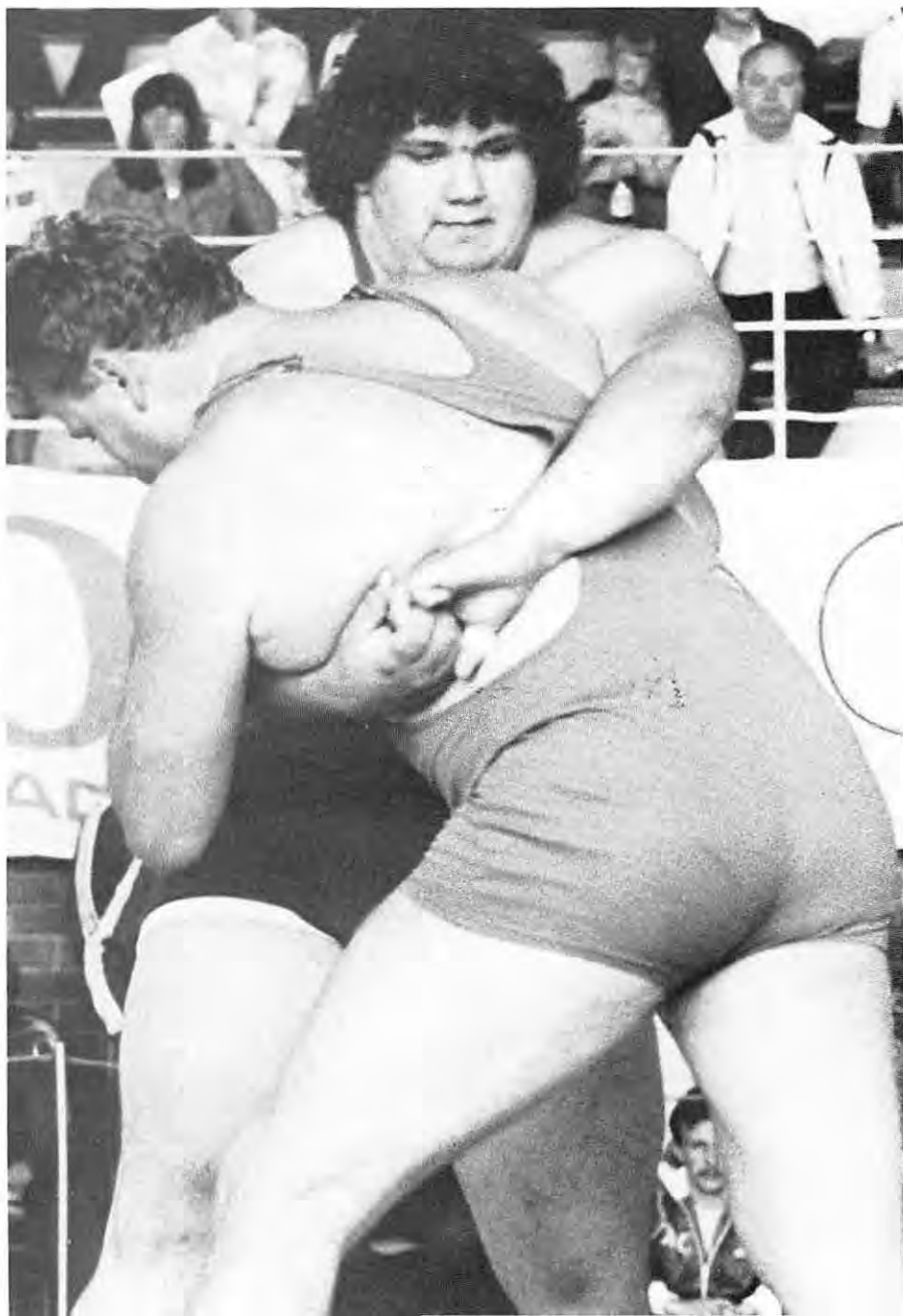
"It's quite a thing to have one phenom

from a town of 4,000," Coach Moon said, "but two? Our coaching staff was ecstatic, to say the least. A lot of us didn't sleep much after we got the news. Those young men are the talk of the town."

That's right, Jan Scherr said. She said the family has received lots of phone calls. "Everyone stops us on the street to talk about the boys," she said. She and husband Frank "and about half the family" were able to be at the Meadowlands to watch Jim, at 177 pounds, decision Iowa's Duane Goldman, 3-2, and Bill, at 190, decision Jim Baumgardner of Oregon State, 13-4, in the finals.

The Scherr brothers' victories — together with a runner-up finish by the other member of Nebraska's so-called "Murderers' Row," heavyweight Gary Albright — carried the Huskers to fourth place in the final standings.

That was the best team finish ever for



Albright nearly completed incredible triple.



the Huskers.

"I'm pretty pleased by what has happened at Nebraska," Fehrs said. "When I came here six years ago, I said that in five or six years we would be competitive with anyone. Well, we took sixth in the nation last year, and this year, we're fourth. I guess we have accomplished that goal."

Last year, Albright had knee surgery and sat out the season (and was granted an extra year of eligibility) after finishing seventh nationally as a freshman. The 350-pounder from Billings, Mont., lost, 3-1, in this year's finals to 447-pound Tab Thacker of North Carolina State, the unbeaten champ.

Albright, with two more seasons to go, will be the anchor of the coming Husker teams in more ways than one. Fehrs said Albright will take over the team leadership roles the Scherr brothers had filled.

The three of them — the awesome Murderers' Row — have their sights set now on the Olympics.

"If we go on and win gold medals," Bill Scherr said, "I don't know if we would have much motivation to stay with wrestling. But if we don't win, we will be competing four more years, at least."

The Scherrs and Albright have all had extensive international experience, and Coach Fehrs figures they all have a legiti-

mate shot at representing the United States in Los Angeles.

"Jim, who has been wrestling at 177, will be at 180 (international weight division), and it is unfortunate that there are two people coming back, one a world champion (Chris Campbell) and the other a three-time NCAA champ (Mark Schultz), in that division. The competition will be awfully stiff," Fehrs said.

"I think Jim can compete with them. They both are extremely talented. He has wrestled Schultz, but unfortunately, he hasn't beaten him, so Jim would have to be considered an underdog.

"Bill has a little better chance. He'll be at 198 (he wrestled at 190 in college), and he has beaten just about everybody in that division at one point or another. Some have beaten him, too, of course, but he would have to be more heavily favored to make the Olympic team than Jim.

"But they both will be strong contenders."

Fehrs said Albright, too, is a potential Olympian, but because he is younger, his year may be 1988. In addition to seventh and second in the NCAA meets, Albright has placed second in the junior world freestyle championships and third in the junior world Greco-Roman championships.

"He is the only American ever to win a medal in Greco-Roman when the competition was not held in the United States," Fehrs said. "Gary is not good just because he is big. Certainly, at 350 pounds, there are some moves he cannot do, but he has wrestling skills and good technique."

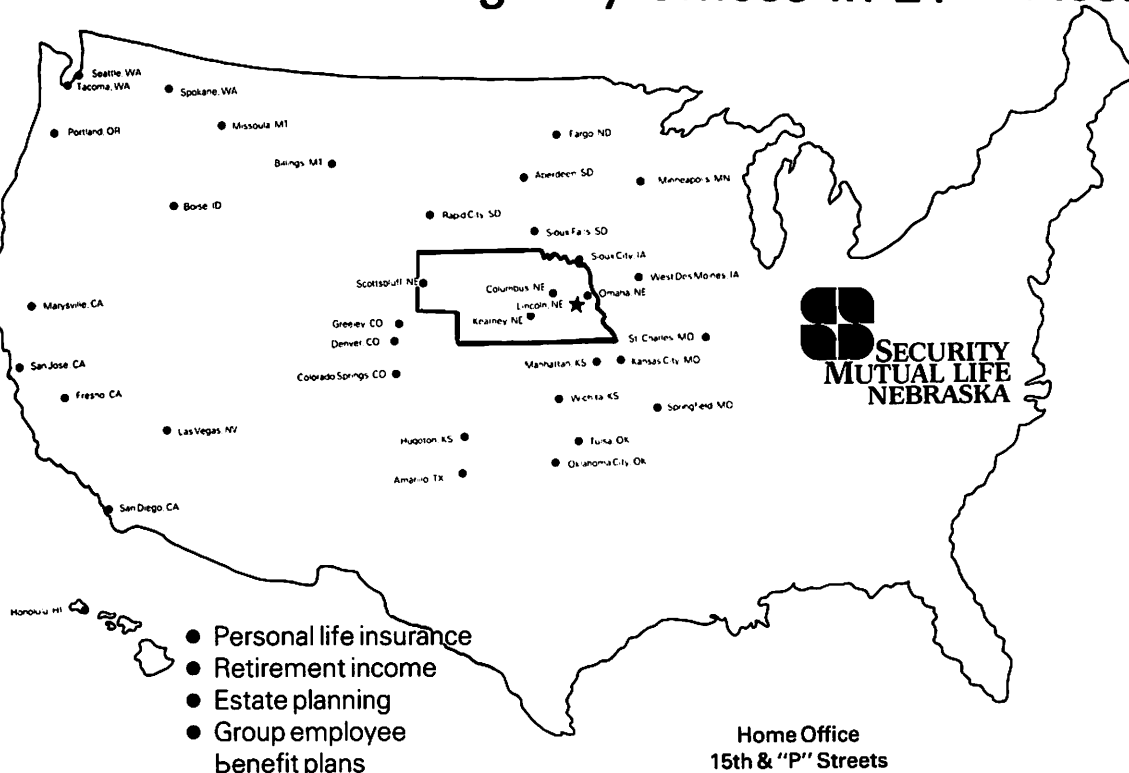
Albright (who is built like a steel barrel and has talked occasionally about trying professional wrestling some day) represents a milestone in Fehrs' march toward wrestling respectability at Nebraska.

"He is the first wrestler we recruited in a head-to-head competition with one of the Big Four wrestling schools (Iowa, Iowa State, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State)," Fehrs said. The loser was Oklahoma, which had Albright all but enrolled when Fehrs heard about him.

"We were definitely in need of a heavyweight (for the 1981-82 season). The fellow who had been wrestling for us was a senior, and none of the recruits had quite made it. I happened to be talking to Stan Dziedzic (of the Lincoln-based USA Wrestling), and he said the previous summer he had worked with a kid from Billings, Mont., at an Olympic age-level training camp who looked promising. He gave me his name and number.

"I called and spoke with Gary and his father two or three times. Montana and

We started in Fremont in 1896. Now we're in Lincoln and have agency offices in 21 states.





Jim Scherr is ready for another great escape.

Montana State were recruiting him for both wrestling and football. Oklahoma wanted him for wrestling, and he had visited there and had decided to accept their offer. Initially, he didn't think there was any reason to visit us. But eventually we talked him into a visit, and he really enjoyed the city of Lincoln and our wrestling situation."

Since then, Fehrs has had other recruiting successes against the Big Four — and he is threatening to break into their club, if he hasn't already.

But Nebraska definitely wasn't a national power five years ago when Fehrs went after the Scherrs. For that matter, the Scherrs weren't sought by the Big Four.

"They were high school seniors my second year here," Fehrs said. "A man in South Dakota told me about a couple of kids of national caliber." Fehrs said he checked these Scherr kids out. "They had tremendous credentials, but that often happens in a non-wrestling state. Credentials can be suspect. In this case, however, they certainly proved to be true."

Contacts were made, and Jim was inclined to accept the Nebraska offer, but Bill was uncertain. Fehrs had a Nebraska booster fly him to Mobridge (which is in north-central South Dakota, about 500 miles from Lincoln). The Scherr boys were competing in a track meet.

"I spent the whole afternoon walking from one event to another. Bill seemed to be in everything. I kept talking to him. Unfortunately, I didn't convince him that afternoon. It turned out his parents weren't home that day anyway. So I came back, holding my breath. After a few more phone calls, they decided to come with us."

The twins were completing an extraordinary high school athletic career, but they had decided that they wanted to concentrate on wrestling in college.

Bill Scherr said, looking back at the decision to answer Nebraska's call, "We looked at the coaching and liked what we saw. Stan Dziedzic, the U. S. national coach, lived in Lincoln. We wanted a (NCAA) Division 1 school, and the Big Eight was the best wrestling conference. And 500 miles was about as close to home as we could get and have the other things we wanted."

They had started wrestling in grade school. "There was a wrestling program for kids," Jim Scherr recalled. "We worked out at the high school after the varsity was through. It was something to do. We had always wrestled with each other. We used to wrestle for hours."

"They fell in love with wrestling in the fourth grade," their mother said. "One

went to practice one day, then couldn't go the next time, so the other went and won a trophy. They both have been regulars ever since."

Their folks love wrestling, too. "I think that, more than any other sport, wrestling develops your potential as a human being," Jan Scherr said. "It's an individual sport. It requires discipline and sacrifice. You have to give up a lot of things to be a championship wrestler."

When the twins moved into junior high school, they encountered Rod Moon, the brand new wrestling coach.

"I must have been a pretty intelligent coach to find a pair like them my first year. They were standouts. There were other good wrestlers in that class, too. But I think what separated them from the others was total dedication to winning," Moon said.

Moon "graduated" to the high school faculty at the same time the Scherrs graduated, so he coached them throughout their prep careers. He was an assistant football and track coach, too, and the twins excelled in those sports, too.

But it was in wrestling (Bill was a two-time state champ, and Jim won one) that they made their most lasting mark. "They blazed a trail. They made wrestling a respected sport in Mobridge. They come back and help our kids during the summer and Christmas vacations. They haven't forgotten where they came from," Moon said.

Mom Scherr said the family didn't try to dress the twins alike. "We wanted them to be individuals," she said.

The boys still lead separate lives — sort of. Bill is married. He and wife Teresa began dating as high school sophomores. "She has really sacrificed so I can train and wrestle," Bill said.

But the brothers still work out together, just as fiercely as ever — in the Cornhusker wrestling room, where the walls are padded. •

Final 1984 Top 20

1. Iowa	123.75
2. Oklahoma State	98.00
3. Penn State	70.50
4. NEBRASKA	61.00
5. Oklahoma	51.50
6. Wisconsin	49.50
7. Iowa State	40.25
8. Louisiana State	38.75
9. Michigan State	29.25
10. Missouri	29.00
11. Northern Iowa	28.75
12. North Carolina State	25.50
13. Oregon State	23.25
14. San Jose State	22.25
15. Lehigh	20.25
16. Arizona State	19.00
17. Princeton	18.25
18. Michigan	18.00
19. Temple	16.75
20. Miami of Ohio	16.25

1984 WILL BE A GREAT CORNHUSKER SEASON



This year you'll be able to enjoy Cornhusker glory in style. Celebrate in *The Five Reasons* lounge. Dine in *The Renaissance*. Relax in the indoor pool and exercise room.

Nebraska's "headquarters hotel" is ready now. Call us at (402) 474-7474 to plan your special event or get-away weekend.

Call toll-free for reservations:

800-742-2226 800-228-2676

In Nebraska

Outside Nebraska

We've rebuilt a legend.

The Cornhusker
HOTEL & CONVENTION CENTER

333 South 13th Street on Cornhusker Square
Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 474-7474.

David Green, CHSE, CHA, General Manager
Thomas J. Rhoubin, Food & Beverage Director
Jeanne Harms, Convention Sales Manager

You've heard the expression "there's more than one way to skin a cat."

Well, the nice thing about athletics is there is also more than one way to win.

Last year, the Huskers did it with a certain flair and a certain style. People called it "The Scoring Explosion" and Turner Gill was the man setting the torch.

This year, things will be different and no one knows it more than Craig Sundberg, the senior quarterback who will be asked to strike a different match to a different team.

"It's going to take more plays to get to the goal line this year, but I still think we can get there," said Sundberg, who would like to model the 1984 Nebraska Cornhuskers after the 1983 Baltimore Orioles.

Remember how the Orioles won the World Series?

They won it with a determined drive against bigger names from the Philadelphia Phillies.

Sure, the Phillies had a pitcher named Steve Carlton and a slugger named Mike Schmidt. Carlton mowed down batters like Sandy Koufax, and Schmidt blasted 'em out of the park like Hank Aaron.

But the pitching star on the championship team was a guy named Mike Boddicker and the batting star was a fellow named Cal Ripken Jr.

Names don't win championships; people do. There's more than one way to skin a cat and there's more than one way to win. Craig Sundberg realizes he's not the home run hitter Turner Gill is. But if

he can swat a double or two in the right places, he still thinks he can win.

I guess when it comes right down to it, that's the way you're judged by winning the game," Sundberg said. "Nobody really remembers how many points you scored. They just want to know if you scored enough to win."

As Nebraska's No. 1 quarterback this fall, Sundberg feels compelled to stress that theme.

The three principals on Nebraska's famous "Scoring Explosion" poster are gone — Turner Gill, Mike Rozier and Irving Fryar. But they left an important legacy the spirit and the desire to win.

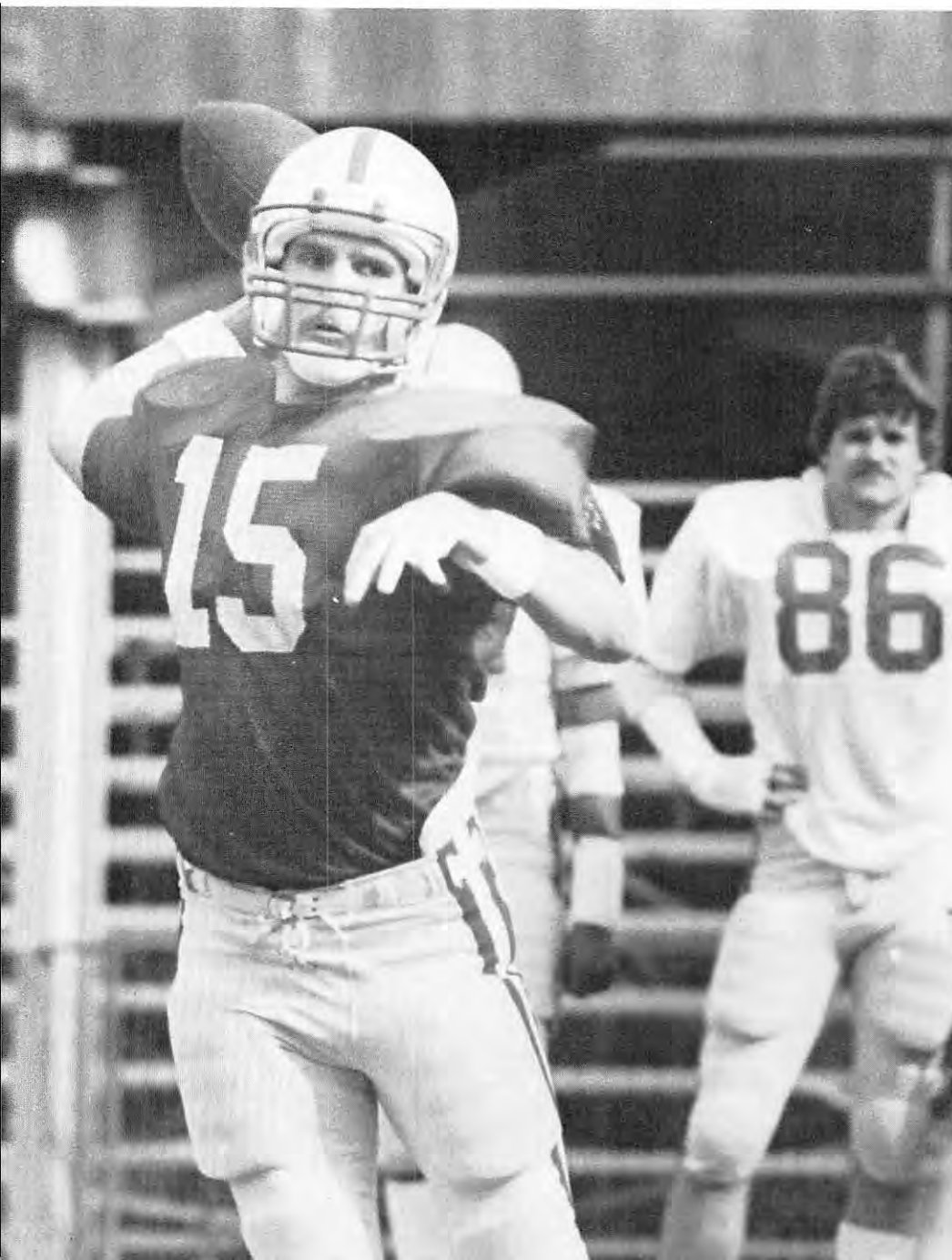
"We're going to have a bunch of guys who want to win just as badly as the guys who played last year," Sundberg said. "We all realize we're going to have to take a different route to do it. That's why we all worked so hard during the winter to get ready for spring ball and I don't think there's going to be anybody sitting on their duffs this summer."

If Craig Sundberg, the fifth-year senior from Lincoln Southeast, sounds a little like a departed franchise from Fort Worth, Texas, there's a reason.

Nebraska recruited Sundberg the same year the Huskers recruited Turner Gill. Although he didn't command near the hubbub, NU coaches viewed them in

Sundberg Of Husker

After two years of apprentice work behind Turner Gill, Craig Sundberg was ready to move up as the heir apparent during spring drills. See center spread, pages 32-33.



equal terms at the time.

A few nights before national-letter-of-intent day in 1980, Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne was concerned enough about the imbalance of publicity that he telephoned Sundberg while he was on the road recruiting.

"The general idea was he didn't want me to worry about Turner getting all the press," Sundberg said. "He wanted me to know that I was just as important. I appreciated the phone call. But I wasn't worried. Coming out of high school, I felt I was as good as anybody else."

So did Jerry Pettibone. The Nebraska recruiting coordinator at the time, he rated Gill the perfect quarterback for Nebraska's option attack.

But Sundberg also drew impressive marks under the Huskers' sophisticated evaluation system. Pettibone said he was rated the same as Frank Seurer, the No. 1 quarterback in California who went on to star at Kansas.

Four years later, Sundberg finally will get his chance to prove his worth.

"He's about as well prepared as he could be," Osborne said. "In athletics, you never come out with any absolute statements, but barring an injury, Craig will be the starter in the first ball game next fall."

That game will be against Wyoming in Lincoln and if you're looking for some-

thing fortuitous, go back to last year's Wyoming game when Osborne inserted Sundberg into the lineup in the second quarter.

The Huskers led at halftime, 42-3, and won going away, 56-10. Sundberg only threw three passes, completing two for 41 yards. But the handwriting was on the wall. He was being groomed as Gill's successor.

It's a role he played well for the better part of two seasons. "Craig realized the situation early when we decided to play Turner and redshirt him as a sophomore," Osborne said. "That was a good forewarning and he's displayed a very good attitude through it all."

Osborne realizes it isn't easy for any quarterback to land in college at the same time as the best quarterback in the school's history. Chris Knust of Omaha Creighton Prep arrived at that same time and didn't take long to give up football and pursue a baseball career.

"There have been years where we've played with quarterbacks not as good as Craig was as a junior and maybe even as a sophomore," Osborne said.

"He's a player similar to Tom Sorley and Jeff Quinn. He's in that category. We're talking without the benefit of Craig playing varsity football, but he's very much the athlete they were."

Sorley and Quinn weren't All-Americans, but they were winners. Sorley engineered the gigantic upset of Oklahoma in 1978 and quarterbacked the Huskers into the Orange Bowl. Quinn guided Nebraska into the Cotton Bowl with equal consistency in 1980, falling four points short against Florida State and three points short against Oklahoma and Houston.

Following Gill and his amazing record of quarterbacking only two losses in three years as a starter is a difficult task. But it is a challenge Sundberg welcomes.

He knows what the heat is like in the kitchen and he intends to stand up to it. If Nebraska, for instance, should lose at defending Rose Bowl champion UCLA next fall, Sundberg undoubtedly will be a major topic of conversation, regardless of the quality of his performance.

"I don't have any problems with that," he said. "Thinking about the pressure is the farthest thing from my mind. Worry isn't the right word. I know there's public pressure. But I'll be concentrating on the contact I have with my teammates and my coaches. I couldn't care less what Joe Blow says."

It is precisely that attitude that will carry Sundberg through the eye of the storm, following the greatest quarterback on one of Nebraska's greatest teams.

Sundberg is not entirely immune to that kind of pressure. When he was a sophomore at Southeast High School, he played behind All-Stater Vernon Fischer, a slick-operating quarterback-defensive back.

Sundberg picked up where Fischer left off, quarterbacking Southeast to back-to-back outstanding seasons, culminated by All-State status as quarterback.

"I never really felt myself doing it," Sundberg said. "I always felt it was the people around me. I had a lot of confidence in myself, but it was my coaches, my teammates, my friends and my family, too. I expected to do it because they expected me to do it."

Confidence, especially the confidence of a major college quarterback, isn't always easily pinpointed.

"The only explanation I have for my own inner confidence is that's the way I was brought up," Craig said. "Everybody in our family is more the leader-type than the follower. Both my sisters (Amy, 19, and Wendy, 16) are that way. You can't categorize them as passive. It's the basic socialization process. My parents are that way, too."

Dave Sundberg, Craig's father, is a prominent Lincoln insurance executive. Linda Sundberg, his wife, is one of Nebraska's most knowledgeable female sports fans.

Knowledge is one of Craig's most valuable assets. "The thing Craig really has going for him is the knowledge of our of-

Faces Full Glare Spotlight On QBs

Patient Lincolnite finally emerges from Turner Gill's shadow; Craig will try to skin the cat with more dropback passing.

By Randy York



Challengers, from left, Don Douglas, Travis Turner and Jerry Mlinar, back up Sundberg.

fense," Osborne said. "His on-the-field game experience is limited. It's probably about the equivalent of three games. But Craig is well-prepared mentally. He knows the offense about as well as any quarterback we've ever had."

That knowledge gives Sundberg the edge over a host of worthy challengers to succeed Gill.

"I've always studied our offense, but it didn't really come together until last year," Sundberg said. "That's when I really felt myself grow and develop."

"I don't know whether it takes a couple of years or what. All I know is I used to sit in meetings, memorize what was written on the chalkboard, then go out on the field and really not feel it. Last year, for the first time, I could recognize and really feel what I'd seen on the board. I guess it just takes times."

Osborne sees Sundberg's late development in terms of the reality of the situation. "We've had years where Craig might have played a year or two sooner," he said.

"He just had the misfortune of being here when Turner was."

Sundberg always has accepted the facts. "I haven't waited behind somebody with equal talent. I've waited behind somebody with the greatest talent we've ever had at quarterback," he said, admitting that made the wait easier.

"I was as much a Turner Gill fan as anybody else," Sundberg said. "I was a member of the team and when it came down to seeing who was the best team, I wanted our best quarterback to give us our best chance to win."

Watching Gill perfect his craft was a lesson in patience as well as a lesson in poise.

"I've had inner confidence and inner strength through the Lord since ninth or 10th grade," Sundberg said. "I draw a lot of my strength through relationships outside of football. Your support can come from other sources."

Even though Sundberg knew he was a good quarterback who might have seized another opportunity at another school, the

thought never really surfaced.

"There were some tough times, but it's all gone fast and it's all been positive," he said. "I never looked back and questioned my decision to play here. I always felt there was a reason for everything."

That attitude helped Sundberg co-exist for two years with Nate Mason, the quarterback most viewed as Gill's true back-up, even though he was rated almost dead even with Craig.

"The difference between Nate and Craig wasn't much," Osborne said. "Nate was a better runner. Craig was a better passer."

Mason had starting experience. Sundberg did not. The seniority system reflected the rank and file. "He did some things better and I did some things better," Sundberg said. "Then it comes down to the head coach's decision and I place my faith in Coach Osborne."

"I understood the philosophy. When two guys are even and one's a year older, I can see where the coach is coming from. I don't know what the team or I would have gained from me being able to play three or four minutes."

If Craig Sundberg sounds like a man with uncommon maturity, he is. At least he has enough to make the decision to marry Lincolnite Nancy Whitcomb on May 19.

Nancy will be graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan with a degree in business in May. "She's working on an internship at Lincoln General with an emphasis on personnel," Craig said. "We've dated on and off since the ninth grade. I look at getting married as a real asset, personally and athletically. It'll be easier to handle everything this fall."

Osborne goes to great lengths not to make Sundberg feel he's accepting all the pressure for a rebuilding offense.

"We'll be starting eight new people on offense," Osborne pointed out. "That's going to present some problems. If things don't go real smoothly offensively right off the bat, it's not necessarily going to be the responsibility of one player."

Sundberg agrees. "I guess I look at it the same way," he said. "When you're winning and playing well, it's not just one guy's responsibility. So in the same respect, if you lose, there's no way it's just because of one guy."

Still, Sundberg wants the responsibility to direct the post-Turner Gill regime.

"It's kind of funny. I remember inviting Turner out to my house to eat as a freshman," Craig recalled. "I don't think



Bring the Whole Group!

You deserve a day in the sun and fresh air, good food, and a healthy dose of excitement . . .

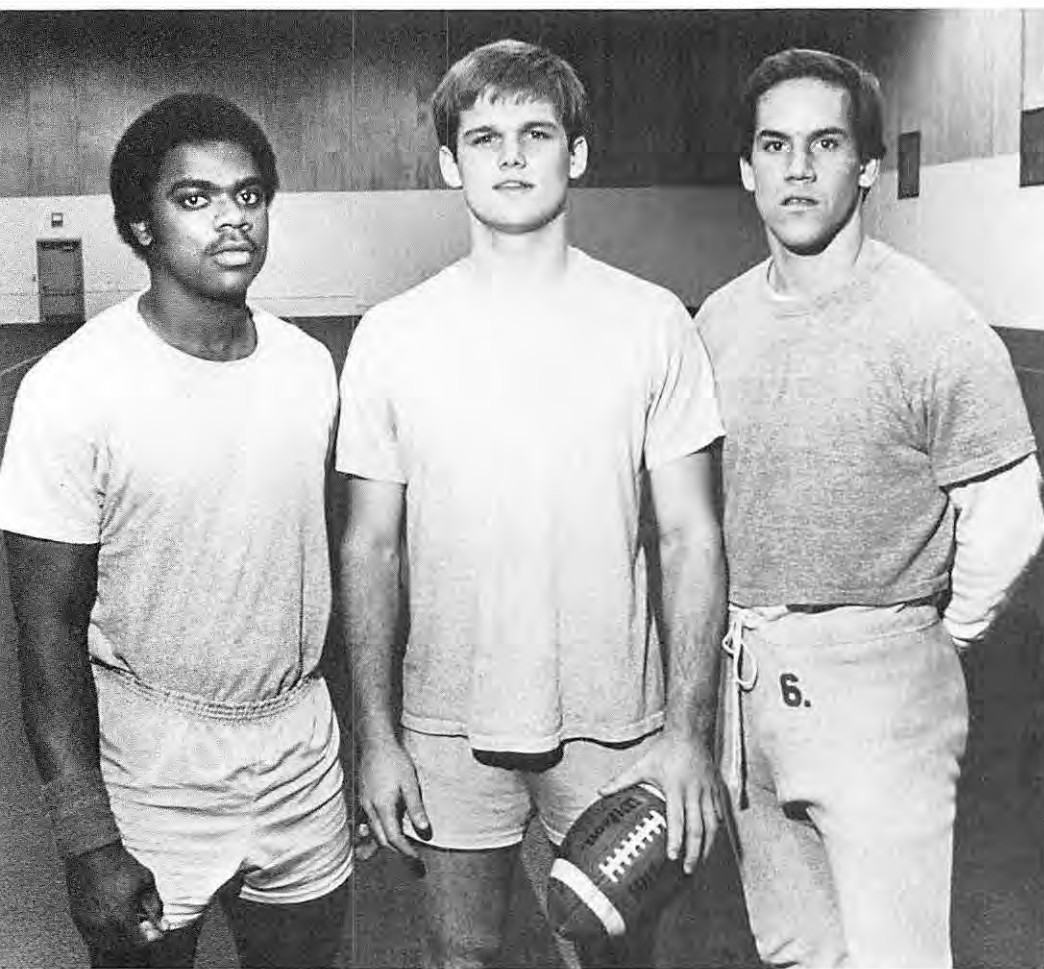
Get the whole gang together. It's time for a holiday at the Ak-Sar-Ben Thoroughbred Races. Planning is easy. Just call Toll Free and ask for the group reservationist. We'll take it from there.

**In Nebraska Call
TOLL FREE
1-800-642-8824**

**In Kansas, Missouri, Iowa,
South Dakota, Colorado, and
Wyoming, Call TOLL FREE
1-800-228-6001**

AK-SAR-BEN
Thoroughbred Races
May 1 - August 25
Omaha

No one under 16 admitted.



Frosh quarterbacks, from left, Hendley Hawkins, Jeff Taylor, Clete Blakeman. Not pictured, McCathorn Clayton.

he had any idea how he'd be treated by the media and the fans."

Gill handled his popularity with as much privacy as possible. Sundberg thinks he used the right approach, but he was more interested in watching Gill showcase his leadership abilities.

"As I look back on his three years here, it's too hard to put into words what he did," Sundberg said. "He was such a great leader by example. If there's anything I've learned from watching him, it's how effective that can be. I want to be the same type of quarterback who believes in his own ability and yet is never satisfied."

Sundberg, of course, has more physical limitations than Gill. His biggest is his :04.75 speed in the 40. That's about two-tenths of a second slower than Gill.

"Craig's not a great runner, but he can be a good runner," Osborne said, admitting that doesn't mean the Huskers can't win with lesser speed.

"Craig's faster than Vince Ferragamo and Dave Humm, for instance," Osborne pointed out. "We may use a few more dropback passes with Craig, but we'll stay with option football. He just may not be able to get an alley and go 50 yards like Turner did. He may only be able to go 20."

The Huskers have faster quarterbacks

playing behind Sundberg. The list of spring challengers started with seven.

Three are upperclassmen Travis Turner, Donnie Douglas and Jerry Mlinar. Four are freshmen McCathorn Clayton, Hendley Hawkins, Jeff Taylor and Clete Blakeman.

Blakeman received a freshman hardship ruling for an injury and appears destined to play junior varsity next season. Mlinar left the team to join the priesthood until he changed his mind.

So the other five are considered Sundberg's most realistic challengers. "Beyond Craig, we have more uncertainty at quarterback than I've ever seen," Osborne said before spring practice started. "We have five or six who could end up in any order."

"I told everybody we had to get someone prepared to be the No. 2 quarterback," Osborne said. "But I also told them to be prepared to bounce around. Everyone would get an equal number of snaps and everyone would be graded. I told 'em not to be surprised if they were second team one week and fourth team the next."

Last fall, the freshmen "all took turns going through periods of inconsistency," Osborne said. "All had their moments, but none really established himself."

McCathorn is the best pure runner. Hendley has the strongest arm. Jeff does both well. Clete has the overall talent. He just needs to get faster and stronger."

Turner and Douglas also offer different strengths and weaknesses, but both took an experience edge into spring practice. All, Osborne said, "exhibit some sufficiencies to win at the major college level."

Nebraska's head coach isn't counting out Wendell Wooten, an incoming freshman from La Marque, Texas, either. "He'd like to be there," Osborne said. "I told him it's possible and will depend on a lot of things. You never recruit a guy you expect to come right in and be one of your top three quarterbacks. But if nobody emerges, he's got a definite shot."

Like Gill, Wooten is a great great high school football and baseball player. Sundberg's prep double was football and basketball.

"I don't know why, but I always felt more sure of myself in football than basketball," Sundberg said. "I like to think I play my best when the pressure's the greatest."

NU assistant Frank Solich, who coached Sundberg two years in high school, shares that opinion. "Every time Craig's had the opportunity, he's displayed that he can handle it," Solich said. "In high school, he always responded to the challenge. He's intelligent. He knows the system. And he's sound in all areas running the option, throwing the ball. He's very solid. There are no apparent deficiencies."

Osborne saw dramatic signs of Sundberg's ability to handle pressure in the 1980 Nebraska Shrine Bowl when he moved his South team 79 yards in the final 64 seconds to beat the North, 23-20.

To do it, Sundberg had to be as precise as a surgeon, hitting five of his six passes, including a 19-yard touchdown pass in the final two seconds.

The miracle finish helped Sundberg break former Husker Bobby Hohn's 20-year-old Shrine Bowl record for total offense. Sundberg completed 15 passes for 206 yards in that game.

So the stage may be set. Even though Nebraska's fans do not have a reservoir of confidence in "the unknown quarterback," the quarterback and his coach have that confidence.

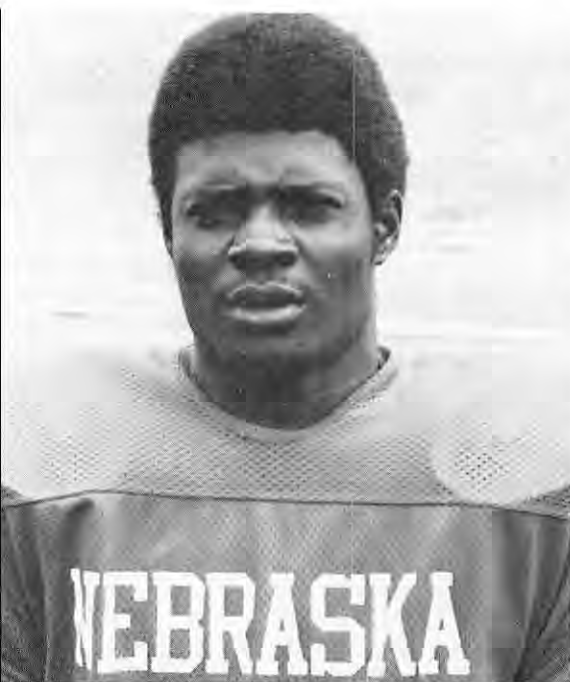
They both know there's more than one way to win and they're both anxious to show how it can be done. •



influence



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES



"I'll tell you one thing. Neil's a mama's boy. He always has been. I've tried to get him out of that so he could stand on his own two feet. At Nebraska, he finally does." — Margaret Harris.

Neil Harris can't hide it anymore. His deepest secret is out. Now we know. The hero of the Oklahoma game and Turner Gill's best friend is, of all things...a mama's boy.

"He's always been a mama's boy," Margaret Harris said of her youngest son, the Nebraska cornerback who saves Oklahoma games and accepts requests to be best man in Turner Gill's wedding when he isn't clinging to his mother's dress.

How much of a mama's boy was (is) he?

"As much as a little boy could be," his mother said. "When Neil was in grade school, the rest of the kids would be outside playing. If he wasn't beside me, he'd be upstairs reading, watching TV or sleeping."

Growing up, "the only kids Neil played with were his two brothers and three sisters," Margaret said. "And on Sundays, he wouldn't even play with them. They'd be outside and he'd be inside with me. I'd be on the couch and he'd be on the beanbag chair. Neil didn't like to leave his mama."

The simple truth of that fact helps lay the groundwork for one of the more interesting Nebraska recruiting stories.

Husker fans know Harris as the two-year starting cornerback who broke up Oklahoma's last two pass plays in Nebraska's 28-21 win in Norman.

But at Harmon High School in Kansas City, he was an all-state quarterback who

was recruited more as a receiver than a cornerback.

The list of colleges was trimmed to five: Nebraska, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa State and Kansas State.

"I visited K-State last and told everybody that I'd call them when I got back the Sunday night before national signing day," recalled Harris.

An All-City basketball player in Kansas City, Harris had his heart set on playing split end at Nebraska and told NU recruiter Charlie McBride that he intended to sign with the Huskers.

Neil's brother, Larry, then a split end at Stanford, learned that Nebraska already had scholarship commitments from two split ends in 1980 (Scott Kimball and Scott Norberg).

"He told me to work it all out until I was absolutely certain what I wanted to do," Neil said. "I knew Nebraska really wanted me to play defensive back, but I still wanted to come here."

So Harris agreed to a noon press conference on national-letter-of-intent day. At that time, he fully intended to announce his decision to attend Nebraska.

But things got sticky. At 5:30 on the morning of national signing day, Neil Harris and his mother received a telephone

call from a recruiter at another school.

"You hear some pretty striking things," Neil said. "That morning, I was told how Nebraska had already decided to move Craig Sundberg (another quarterback) ahead of me at receiver or defensive back."

The reason? Sundberg was white and Harris was black. "I was told that because I was black, I'd never play at Nebraska," Harris remembered. "I was told that would be my downfall."

Neil Harris, a B-average student, did not believe the 11th-hour propaganda. But it both frightened and shocked his mother.

"When you realize someone's coming in and taking your baby from you, you pay attention to just about everything that's said," said McBride. "I didn't think Neil was going to leave her. He was the last one around. I felt he was going to stay close to her."

The stage was set for a last-minute change. Margaret Harris insisted that Neil call off the noon press conference and reanalyze his thinking. She also insisted he call his older brother and get his input on the latest developments.

Harris called his high school coach that morning. He called off the press conference, but couldn't reach McBride to inform him of the snag.

Who Says a 'Mama's Play Football For

Cornerback Neil Harris proved otherwise last fall. Just ask his mama. Or, better yet, just ask the Oklahoma Sooners!

By Randy York

"I wanted to leave school that morning and go home," Neil said. "But I had to stay at least a half day because I had a basketball game that night and couldn't play if I missed school."

Shortly before noon that day, Harris walked by a puzzled McBride. "I told him I wanted to talk to my brother again and I wouldn't sign until Thursday."

It didn't take long for the word to travel. Nebraska's rivals dispatched recruiters to the scene of sudden indecision.

"I talked to my brother that afternoon and he told me to get everything straight in my own head and not to sign until I was absolutely sure," Neil recalled. "Coaches called me all afternoon. But I didn't answer the phone."

Neil, by far the quietest of Margaret Harris' six children, was forced to plunge into deep football thoughts only hours before an important basketball game against Wyandotte High School.

That night, when he arrived, Neil Harris saw McBride at the game. He also saw recruiters from Iowa State, Kansas State, Missouri and Illinois. Here it was, 10 hours after letters of intent could be signed, and a quiet "mama's boy" was creating a scene.

Naturally, Neil was embarrassed. But

he still wasn't satisfied. Earlier that week, he had told all five schools that he'd narrowed his choices to Nebraska and Iowa State.

A Kansas State recruiter, aware of how much Neil's mother wanted him to stay closer to home, told Harris to seek his advice any time, even if he wasn't interested in moving to Manhattan.

Harris sought that advice a couple of hours before his basketball game. "I told him what had been thrown at me and asked him what he thought," Neil said. "He told me Nebraska was a prominent school and a respected school and he didn't see any way how that could be true."

Harris' high school football coach told him the same thing. Deep down, Neil also knew it wasn't true. But "mama's boy" was more than willing to please his mama, even at the expense of his own embarrassment.

That night, against Wyandotte, "I didn't play well the whole first half," Harris recalled. "My mind wasn't in the game."

About that point, Neil saw the insanity of the situation and decided to end the charade. He played well the second half, Harmon beat Wyandotte and Harris made up his mind.

"I came out of the locker room, saw Coach McBride, told him I was sorry and I'd made up my mind I was coming to Nebraska," related Harris.

McBride remembers running into an Iowa State recruiter still trying to corner Harris after the basketball game. "They weren't going to take no for an answer," he said. "The whole thing was unfortunate."

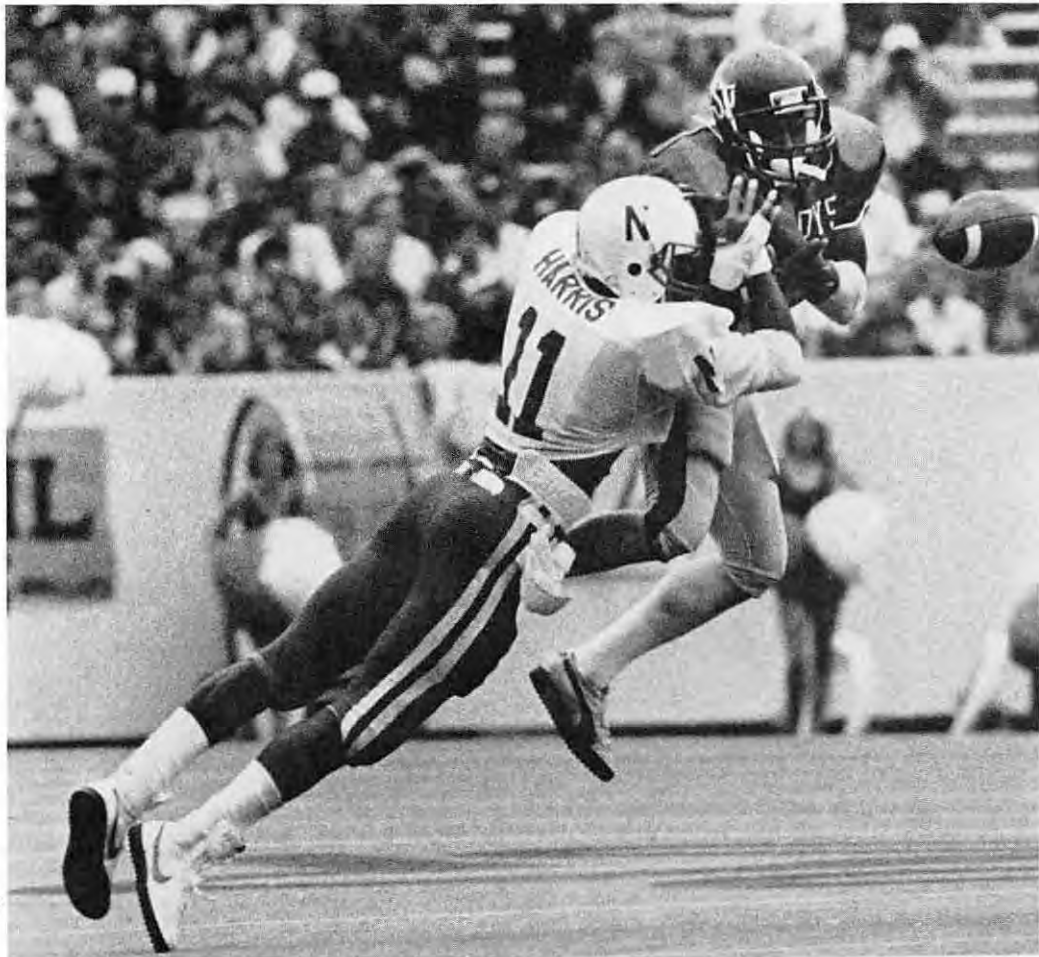
It was also unnecessary. Harris knows if he hadn't been so protective of his mother's fears, it never would have happened.

"From the time I was a baby until I was 11 years old, I spent almost all my time with my mother," he said. "If I wasn't playing basketball by myself or with my brother, I was with her. I don't know why I was such a homebody. I just enjoyed it."

Margaret Harris said the bond was unbelievable. "His older sisters would try to take Neil to their house," she recalled. "He'd grip my hand and refuse to go. When he did go, they'd call that night and tell me they were bringing him home. They didn't want to listen to him cry for his mama."

Harris, now 22, chuckles about it now, even though he confesses to having some "mama's boy" left in him

Boy' Can't Nebraska?



Harris was tight on this Oklahoma State receiver.



Neil earned a place in Husker lore with one play against OU.

want him running home to me all the time. I told him he was going to have to stand on his own two feet."

Margaret Harris is 60 now. She has arthritis, particularly in one knee. But she's still the No. 1 girl in Neil Harris' life.

"Neil called me and told me Turner Gill was engaged and he was going to be his best man (next January)," she said. "I told Neil, if he found a nice girl, there was no harm in him getting married either. I know Neil's always been a mama's boy. But I don't want to stand in the way of his life. I told him I lived mine. It's time he lived his."

A report of the conversation puts a smile on Neil's face. "I told her I haven't seen anybody who's a threat to her yet," Neil said.

Last September, Neil Harris dedicated the football season to his mother, even though "she doesn't know much about football" and even though she bet \$1 on Oklahoma against Nebraska.

When Spencer Tillman gave Oklahoma a 21-14 lead over Nebraska with 6:22 left in the third quarter, a friend and neighbor called Margaret Harris in Kansas City.

The neighbor, sensing the tension, told her Nebraska would come back and win. She even bet \$1 on the Huskers. Mrs. Harris bet on Oklahoma, hoping the reverse would happen.

And it did when Neil Harris batted down a Danny Bradley pass intended for Buster Rhymes in the corner of the end zone. Bradley was trying to convert a fourth-and-nine situation from Nebraska's 10-yard line.

"To have my mother betting against us is a little tough to take," Neil said. "But she doesn't know a whole lot about football."

Margaret pleads guilty. After the game's most dramatic play, she turned to her 16-year-old grandson.

"What'd Neil do?" she asked.

"Grandma, he blocked the pass. Nebraska won," he answered.

"I've got arthritis. But I jumped straight up off the couch," said Margaret Harris.

Officially disabled two years ago, Mrs. Harris isn't used to all that excitement.

"I ride the bus every morning to KU (to visit the medical center)," she said. "I watch my stories ('As The World Turns,' 'Guiding Light,' etc.) and cat nap almost all day. I live alone. But I don't need no walker, no cane, no nothing. I'm happy. I can take care of myself."

The same, of course, is true of Neil, who has played despite recurring ankle problems as a freshman and knee surgery following Nebraska's 21-20 win over LSU

in the 1983 Orange Bowl.

"He's had injury problems throughout his career," said NU Secondary Coach Bob Thornton. "He's a survivor because he has such a high threshold of pain. He's so durable. He just keeps plugging away and taking care of business."

That durability reflects on his high school career when Harris never left the field. "I just stood there and waited for the next team to come out," he said. "I played every play, both ways."

For Harris, those were the days because he never knew the meaning of the word injury.

"The most injury-free year I've had at Nebraska was my redshirt season," Harris said. "In a lot of ways, I wish I could have played that year. But even though I had the physical stability, I didn't have the mental stability."

Now, the reverse is true. Physically, Harris has suffered through the pain of tendonitis on the shin bone below his right knee.

"I don't have the lateral movement I should have," he said. "Because of a couple of bad ankle sprains and the knee, I haven't been able to lift weights on my legs since my freshman season."

Last year, those physical limitations were frustrating. "I tried to block it (the pain) out. But there were times when I let it get to me mentally," Harris said. "I found you can't go out and match people with speed and outright athletic ability."

During winter conditioning, Harris believes he finally built himself back up where he could lift some weights during the spring and summer.

His goal is to be healthy for the first time since he's been a starter. "In a lot of ways, I feel bad about some things that have happened to me," he said. "But I feel fortunate to be able to go out and contribute."

If things get better, Harris will be happy. If they don't, "it's something we can live with," he said.

As always, Neil Harris is more interested in the team concept than himself.

If the Huskers are to keep their position as the top team in the Big Eight, "we're going to have to work harder than last year's team," Harris said. "We're going to have to work harder than anybody else in the Big Eight."

With Turner Gill, Mike Rozier and Irving Fryar gone, Nebraska's battle cry is no longer "The Scoring Explosion." It's the "Scoring Erosion."

"We didn't make very many friends last year the way we won games," Harris admitted. "It's hard to play without players like that. We have a lot to prove. It's going to take everybody who's got anything to do with the team...and all they can give."

Everybody includes Neil Harris, a "mama's boy" who is finally standing on his own two feet and meeting every challenge he can. •

When he was an eighth-grader and saw how well brother Larry had prepared himself for college, "I got even quieter and more to myself," Neil said. "I decided right then and there that I was going to get good grades and prepare myself to get a football or a basketball scholarship."

In the next four years, Neil Harris devoted almost every ounce of his energy to those goals. In the process, "mama's boy" didn't have all that much time for his mama.

After he arrived at Nebraska, "I saw some things I'd missed during my time in high school," Neil said, admitting he felt a little guilty about channeling so much of his time and energy into sports and studies.

"Neil's freshman year at Nebraska, he came home every chance he got," offered Margaret Harris. "I missed him because he was the last to leave home. But I didn't

You could look for better insurance, but you'd just be spinning your wheels. Dairyland Motorcycle Insurance offers good rates, good service, and a way to spread out premium payments. There's even a way to get a full year's protection for less than a full year's premium. So talk to one of our 40,000 Independent Agents. And stop spinning your wheels.

**Dairyland[®]
Insurance**

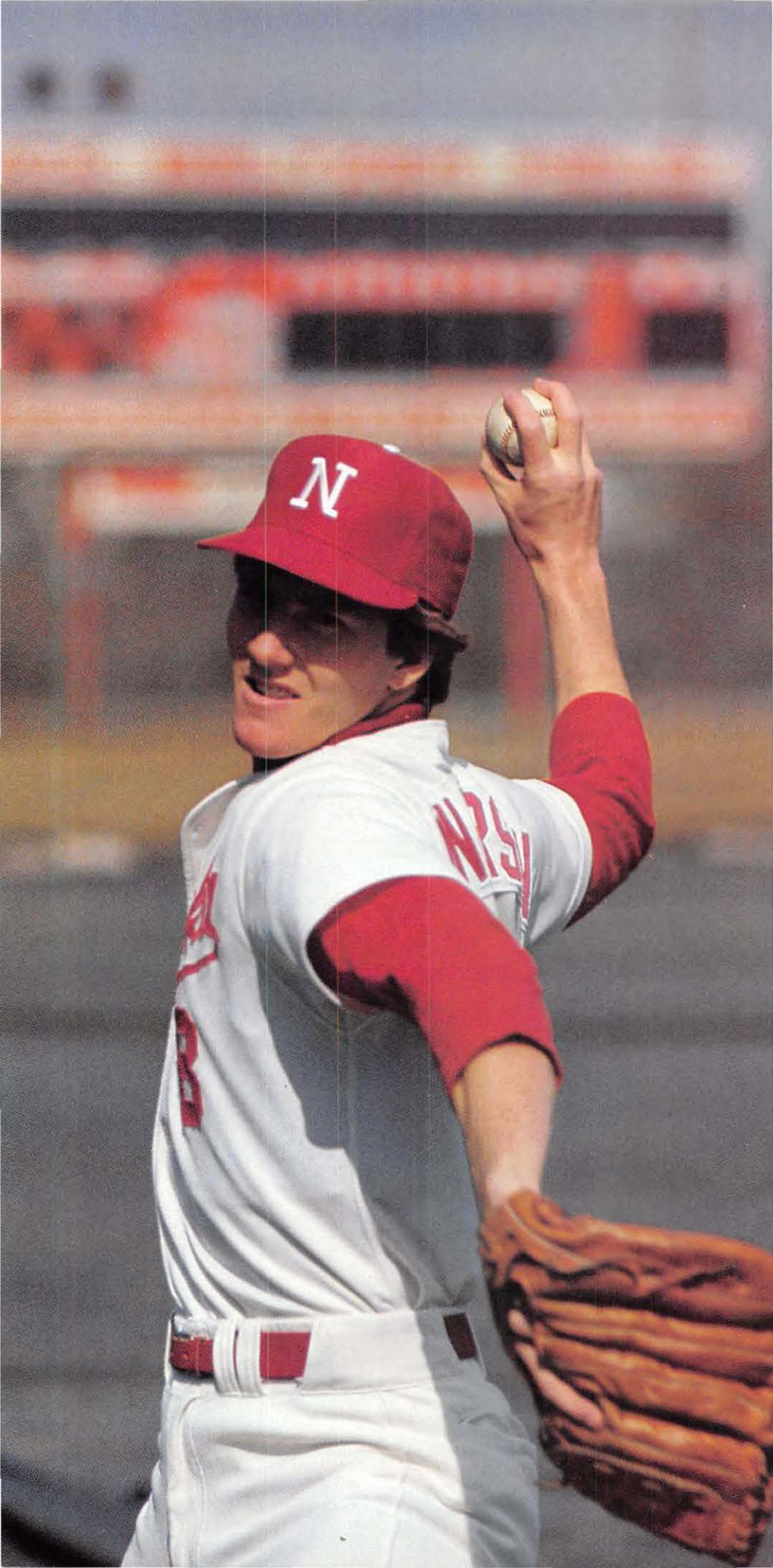


**Motorcycle Insurance.
Good rates for good riders.**





In The Spotlight



The second floor of his dormitory and a baseball field defined the limits of Jeff Anderson's world during his freshman year at Nebraska. By his own admission, Anderson was a "hermit," whose only friends were people living in Abel Hall and some of the Cornhusker teammates with whom he played every afternoon at Buck Beltzer field.

His first nine months in Lincoln, Anderson recalls making three friends who either weren't baseball players or didn't live on Abel 2.

Anderson's seclusion was, for the most part, self-imposed. The homesickness with which every college freshman must deal was compounded by his own introverted nature.

"I was so shy," he said. "I didn't find it easy to meet new people." As a result, being such a long way from home, in Nampa, Idaho, was almost too much to handle.

Shyness wasn't the only thing that kept Anderson holed up in his dorm room, however. He wanted a car, badly, and "my dad always told me if I didn't get good grades, I wasn't going to get one the next year. So I studied all the time my first semester at Nebraska.

"I just studied and played baseball. I was unhappy, really," said Anderson. Even so, his studying paid off. Not only did it help him establish good work habits, it also

One-Time Blossoms

Winningest pitcher in Husker history.

provided him with transportation.

After his freshman year, Anderson's father, Merrill, gave him a car, a Ford Pinto, which now belongs to his sister, Jody, a student at Oklahoma Christian College in Oklahoma City.

Anderson carries a 2.7 grade-point average, on a 4.0 scale, despite the time demands of playing baseball at the major college level. Balancing schoolwork with athletics isn't a problem, he said.

"People ask, 'How do you do it?' I tell them, it's all a matter of organization. I had trouble studying my freshman year because I wasn't organized. It doesn't take that much. Some people just don't do it, and that's what gives athletes a bad reputation."

Anderson's main concession to baseball was a change in majors.

As a freshman, he planned to major in architecture, until he realized that if he did, he would have to choose between it and baseball, because, "architecture is 10 hours a day if you want to do it right," Anderson said. A friend in Nampa, who tried to compete on the track team as well as major in architecture at the University of Idaho, gave Anderson that advice. The friend picked architecture; Anderson switched majors.

After considering business, he settled on social sciences, with an emphasis in history and psychology. His father, now a junior

high principal, is a former history teacher and high school basketball coach. Anderson might teach and coach, but preferably after what he hopes will be a successful professional baseball career.

Three years ago, Anderson's thoughts weren't on teaching and coaching. He was just trying to complete his freshman year at Nebraska, and, for the most part, he was trying to do it on his own. Anderson might not have made it except that he was befriended by Mark Haley, an easy-going catcher on the Cornhusker baseball team.

"Mark saved me," said Anderson. "He got me through the rough spots. If Mark hadn't helped me, I wouldn't still be here. I wouldn't have gotten through my second year at Nebraska without him."

"The Lord blessed me with a good friend."

Bill McGuire, a sophomore from Omaha, has been Anderson's catcher the last two seasons. From the first, "Andy" was one of the easiest pitchers on the team to catch," said McGuire.

"It's always a pleasure to catch him."

The ease in catching Anderson is a result not only of his control but also his awareness and leadership on the mound. "What he says goes. When he shakes off one of my signs, I'm less likely to be concerned than if it were someone else," McGuire said.

"Whatever he wants to throw, he can

throw."

According to McGuire, Anderson's off-the-field personality is in sharp contrast to his personality when he's pitching. Out of uniform, "he's one of the nicest guys you'd ever want to meet. On the field, he's not a 'head case,' but he'll go high and tight."

"He wants to be the best, and he always thinks he can do better. Andy thinks he'll never reach his potential; he's never satisfied."

Anderson's striving for perfection as a pitcher can be traced to an intense competitiveness which belies his personal shyness. "He's a very intense competitor," said McGuire. "He's always got that same poker face, in every situation. You need to have a pitcher like him."

"If I had one game I absolutely needed to win, I'd want Andy on the mound. He shows a lot of leadership out there."

The Cornhuskers had their backs to the wall, still facing elimination from the Big Eight tournament after defeating Kansas, 3-2, in the 13th inning of a game played earlier that Sunday.

Anderson's confidence had been shaken in his first tournament start against Missouri, a game which began on Tuesday but wasn't completed until Wednesday because of heavy rains which soaked Oklahoma City's All Sports Stadium. His fourth attempt at breaking the NU school record for career victories turned into a five-inning stint over the two days.

He allowed 10 hits and nine runs, six of which were earned, but was spared the loss when the Cornhuskers rallied to win, 10-9.

With the memory of that game still fresh, Anderson took the mound against Oklahoma and worked seven innings, allowing seven hits but only two runs. The Sooners led off the sixth inning with four straight singles to score the runs, and that's all they got.

Unfortunately for Anderson and his teammates, that's all Oklahoma needed. The Sooners defeated Nebraska 2-1, and in so doing, handed Anderson his only loss of the season.

For the year, he was 7-1 with a 2.94 earned-run average, second best in the Big Eight behind Missouri's Dave Otto. Anderson allowed 59 hits in 64 innings and pitched five complete games. He walked only 21.

Based on those numbers and encouragement from scouts, who told him he could expect to be taken in anywhere from the fifth to the 10th round during major league baseball's June free agent draft, Anderson doubted he would be around as a Cornhusker senior to break the NU career record for pitching victories.

"I'm looking forward to the draft," he said. "If the money's right, I'd sign. I'd

Hermit Anderson As NU's Big Winner

Andy passed up the pros for senior campaign, heated it up, became a captain and set a new standard for Nebraska career wins.

By Mike Babcock

Sanders: Andy's no
holler guy.



have to. I've got to give it a try either this year or next year. I've wanted to play since I was eight years old."

Anderson was disappointed by the draft. Although he'd been told he would be taken "no later than the 10th round," he was still waiting after round No. 11. The 12th round came and went...the 13th...the 14th...the 15th...still no word.

When he learned the Oakland A's had picked him in round No. 20, "I didn't know what to think. Even up to the 15th round wouldn't have been so bad," said Anderson, who had been a 32nd round draft choice of the San Francisco Giants out of high school.

By the time San Francisco made its offer, he had decided to go to college. His plans were set. This, however, was different. "I didn't know whether to sign or to come back to Nebraska," Anderson said.

"It was a shock, really," Anderson said.

Even though Oakland waited until the 20th round to draft Anderson, they made him a reasonable offer, according to Anderson, "really good money for being a 20th-round pick. The A's were really confident in me, and I think they thought they had me signed. They seemed pretty disappointed when I turned them down," he said.

The most difficult part of Anderson's decision was the realization that a college senior has less bargaining power with a professional baseball team than a junior does. Juniors have college on which to fall back; seniors have completed their athletic eligibility.

As a result, they're often drafted lower the second time around.

Nevertheless, Nebraska head Coach John Sanders believes Anderson made the right choice. "I feel confident he'll be a better draft this year," said Sanders. "Andy can get more. With an exceptional year, he'll jump up. Most organizations won't try to humiliate a senior."

Former Cornhusker Dan Boever was a 22nd-round draft pick of the Toronto Blue Jays following his junior year in college. Last season, Boever hit .381 with 12 home runs and 72 runs-batted-in, and the Cincinnati Reds drafted him in the eighth round.

Anderson's situation is parallel to that of Boever, Sanders said. "Andy could have gone ahead and signed, but he's in a position now where he's doing a better job of controlling things."

Controlling his pitches has never been Anderson's problem. The only explanation he was given for the low-round draft last spring was that his fastball didn't have enough velocity; 85 mph wasn't good enough.

"People weren't hitting the ball off me, but the scouts told me I wasn't throwing hard enough," Anderson said.

Once the decision not to sign was made, Anderson set about improving his fastball. During fall practice, "it was up to 89 or 90 (mph)." Unfortunately, his arm tightened and got sore from too much work in the weight room, and he had to back off.

During a two-month stretch of the winter, Anderson didn't throw at all, and "I lost a lot of strength," he said. By Nebraska's season-opener, however, the soreness was gone. His arm was loose, and the velocity was back. Prior to the Cornhuskers' spring trip to the west coast and Hawaii, "I was throwing 86-87 (mph) consistently.

"I'm looking to be at 90 (mph) by the Big Eight Tournament, if not sooner than that," said Anderson.

"He can heat it up more this year," McGuire said. "By the end of the season, he'll be throwing 90 (mph)."

The additional season at Nebraska has been positive for Anderson. Not only is he closer to completing his degree, but he's also a stronger, smarter pitcher.

"I can't see where it's hurts me at all," he said. "I think I've improved 100 percent from last year to this year. Now the scouts can't say I don't throw hard enough."

Anderson's curve is breaking sharper this spring than it has since he was a high school pitcher in Nampa.

"He's going to prove he should've been drafted higher last season. I'd put Andy as one of the top three (college) pitchers in the nation," said McGuire.

Anderson has been a pitcher since he was seven years old. He enjoyed playing catch with his father, who was a high school basketball coach, but baseball wasn't always his favorite sport.

By the time he was 10, Anderson's interest was basketball.

"I didn't like baseball, but my mom and dad forced me to play. Maybe they saw some potential that I didn't. Anyway, they wanted me to try other things," Anderson said.

He was a three-sport letterman at Nampa High School and was picked the outstanding athlete in the state his senior year. A quarterback on the football team, he passed for over 1,000 yards in nine games as a senior. College football was out, though. "I wasn't big enough."

Anderson was a guard on the basketball team, good enough that Treasure Valley Community College in Ontario, Calif., recruited him as a basketball and baseball player. By then, baseball was his prefer-

"We've been where you're going."



Bill Carley, President
Lincoln Tour and Travel

"You'll be confident in the knowledge that your vacation will run smoothly when you arrange your trip through Lincoln Tour and Travel. That's because we've personally inspected almost every itinerary on every tour to make sure you'll get more than your money's worth. Everything has met our high standards, so you know in advance that they'll meet your high expectations."

"Before you make arrangements with another travel agent, ask if all the details have been thoroughly examined firsthand. You'll see that no one can give you as much travel confidence as Lincoln Tour and Travel. Discover for yourself why we're better. Call Lincoln Tour and Travel today."

First National Bank Building
13th & M Streets
(402) 474-4111 (800) 742-7334

Gateway Bank Building
Gateway Shopping Center
(402) 464-5902

Travel with Confidence.





Fastball has gotten faster.

ence.

The community supported it, and he enjoyed it.

When the high school baseball season was over, Anderson pitched for the local American Legion baseball team.

He first drew attention as a pitcher during his junior year. He was 12-0 with a 0.80 earned-run average for a Nampa High team that finished third in the state tournament. His senior year, the team dropped off and so did Anderson. Even so, he won six of eight decisions and posted a creditable 1.50 earned-run average.

Anderson planned to attend Pima Junior College, choosing Arizona's warm climate over the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls, Idaho. "I was about 90 percent sure of going there," he said.

While he was visiting Pima, however, Nebraska contacted his parents. "They told my mom not to sign anything until they had talked to me." Soon after returning to Nampa from Arizona, Anderson packed his bags for his first trip to Lincoln, Neb. He visited on the Fourth of July weekend and "was star-struck" by Neb-

raska's facilities and program.

Good-bye Pima, hello Cornhuskers.

Washington State and Pepperdine also had shown interest in Anderson. He visited the Pepperdine campus in Malibu, Calif., and might have gone there if he'd been offered a scholarship. Pepperdine Coach Dave Gorrie "put it to me straight," said Anderson. "He told me they had two junior pitchers who might sign (pro contracts)."

"If they did, I'd have a scholarship."

The pitchers both returned for their senior seasons.

Things were going well for Anderson immediately after his senior year in high school. He was being recruited for his pitching skills, and the San Francisco Giants had flattered him by making him a 32nd-round draft choice.

Nothing could keep him from smiling, not even an American Legion season in which he was 2-8. "Everybody was tired. That was the most disappointing team I've ever been on," he said. Still, his earned-run average was 0.40. "It was the only thing that saved me."

The frustrating summer following his senior year in high school "taught me to cope," Anderson said. "A couple of times, I just about said, 'Forget it.' But I never gave up. It taught me a lesson."

Until this spring, the Nebraska baseball team's record for career victories by a pitcher was 22. Left-hander Cliff Faust established that mark over three seasons, 1977-80.

Anderson tied the record in late April by tossing a four-hit, 3-1 victory over Oklahoma. He faced only one batter over the minimum through the first six and one-third innings before yielding a single.

According to catcher Bill McGuire, that effort, probably Anderson's best of the season, illustrated the "relationship that can develop between a pitcher and catcher. We were in sync," said McGuire.

"We were thinking the same things at the same times."

Anderson lost his bid for a shutout when Oklahoma got back-to-back doubles to lead off the eighth inning. With one out, the Sooners had runners at second and third, representing the tying runs.

All they could manage off Anderson were two ground outs.

"That's as close as I've ever been to a no-hitter," Anderson said. "I had some one-hit games in high school, but the hits always seemed to come in the first inning. I would have liked to have the no-hitter, but the win was more important at the time."

Anderson tried to earn his 23rd career victory four times after the Oklahoma game last season. He got to the eighth inning of a 6-5 victory over Creighton at Omaha's Rosenblatt Stadium but was trailing 5-4 when he left. His second opportunity came against Central Missouri State; he allowed two runs in the first inning before settling down, however, and again left, trailing, after three innings in the predetermined rotation.

Anderson's third attempt at career victory No. 23 came in the first game of the Big Eight Baseball tournament. He lasted five innings over two days in the rain-delayed game and didn't figure in the decision.

He lost his fourth attempt, 2-1, to Oklahoma.

This season he started Nebraska's opener against Wayne State, but because of Coach John Sanders' predetermined pitching order, Anderson wasn't credited with the victory. "After working four innings in that game and not getting the win, I thought, 'Here we go again,'" he said.

"It's not that the record is all that important, but I was starting to let it bother me too much. I was happy to get it out of the way."

Anderson got it out of the way in undramatic fashion, gaining credit in Nebraska's 26-4 pounding of Kearney State, just before the Cornhuskers left on their annual spring trip.

"It was nice for Jeff," said Sanders.

Anderson has changed a lot since he arrived at Nebraska as a shy, introverted freshman who never left his dorm room. "Early on, when he was first here, Andy didn't vent his frustrations enough. He worried too much, and that might have hindered his progress," Sanders said.

"He understands that, and even though he'll never be a yell-holler guy, he's able to cut loose now. He's become a leader."

Anderson, senior second baseman Kurt Eubanks, and senior first baseman Mike Duncan are Nebraska's tri-captains this season. Three and a half years ago, Anderson would never have dreamed of being chosen by his teammates for such an honor. Besides, he was too homesick and too busy studying architecture to worry about it.

His schoolwork is still important, but he doesn't worry about making straight-A's anymore. "I've had the chance to participate in major college athletics," said Anderson. "Doing that can be just as important as getting an A. I've seen how people in different places live, and you can't do that unless you're traveling around."

"I'm not an honor roll student; I never have been. But I've gained a lot of common sense, how to meet and talk with people."

Mail Order To:

Big Red Football School
217 South Stadium
Lincoln, NE 68588

Order Your Big Red Football Clothing

Mail Order To:

Big Red Football School
217 South Stadium
Lincoln, NE 68588

Support the Huskers!

GOLF & TENNIS BAGS	
10½" Deluxe Tour Golf Bag	\$258.00
9½" Deluxe Golf Bag	222.00
8½" Deluxe Golf Bag	175.00
8½" Carry Golf Bag	133.00
24" Tennis Bag	142.00
Golf Travel Cover	80.00

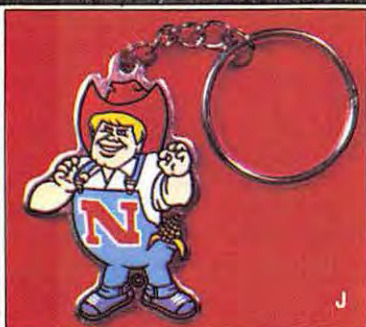
Terms: Payment in full with order
(Credit charges will be billed later)

GOLF & TENNIS BAGS

The 10½" Tour Style Golf Bag features a six way club divider, reinforced opening, full balance harness system, comfort grip, extra large double zippered ball pocket, heavy duty straps, full access shoe pocket, and an inside umbrella well. Each order receives qualified individual attention. The result is a golf bag with exclusivity and prestige, and further identifies you as a "Huskers" booster. The deluxe golf bags are also available on a smaller bag frame, 9½" Deluxe, 8½" Deluxe, 8½" Carry Bag, for the Sunday golfer.

To protect your golf bag, while traveling, we have designed a unique travel bag featuring cordura nylon for rugged, durable performance.

INDIVIDUAL LETTERING ON BAGS
\$3.00 Per Letter



GOLF & TENNIS BAGS

10 1/2" Deluxe Tour Golf Bag	\$258.00
9 1/2" Deluxe Golf Bag	222.00
8 1/2" Deluxe Golf Bag	175.00
8 1/2" Carry Golf Bag	133.00
24" Tennis Bag	142.00
Golf Travel Cover	80.00

Terms: *Payment in full with order*
(Freight charges will be billed later)

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| (A) T-shirt w/helmet design 50/50 blend, white w/red trim, S-XL | \$ 6.00 |
| (B) T-shirt w/Big Red Football 100% cotton, all white, S-XL | \$ 6.00 |
| (C) Shorts, 50/50 blend, red w/white print, S-XL | \$ 7.50 |
| (D) Golf Shirt, 50/50 All White or White w/red trim, embroidered, S-XL | \$20 XXL \$22 |
| Golf Shirt w/Herbie Design (same as above, S-XL | \$22 XXL \$24 |
| (E) Sweaters, 50/50 Acrylic/rayon, embroidered, S-XL | \$21.00 |
| Sweater w/Herbie design, S-XL | \$23.00 |
| (F) Satin Jacket, Red w/fleece lining, embroidered, S-XL | \$45.00 |
| (G) Lined Jacket, Red w/fleece lining, screened, S-XL | \$22.00 |
| Unlined jacket, Red, unlined, S-XL | \$19.00 |
| (H) Jersey (game) Red or white (screened) (sizes run large) Belt length, S-XL | \$25.00 |
| (I) "Nite" shirt, White w/red pin stripes (screened), S-L | \$13.00 |
| (J) Key Chain, split ring security | \$ 4.00 |

Check or money orders only. Made out to Big Red Football School, Inc. Big Red Football School will not be responsible for payments made to anyone other than Big Red Football, Inc.

Sorry, no returns or exchanges accepted without Big Red Football School Inc. authorization. All defects must be filled within 14 days of shipment.

QUAN.	SIZE	ITEM	TOTAL
FREIGHT—\$2 for first item, \$1 for each additional item except bags.			
NEBRASKA RESIDENCE TAX			
5.5% Omaha, 5% Lincoln, 4% rest of state			
List additional items and additional instructions			TOTAL

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In case we have a question on your order Phone (____)_____

HURRY! 3-4 weeks delivery, except on bags. (UPS or US Mail for Delivery)



Angela Thacker experienced an unusual sensation watching herself on television a week after the Nebraska women's track and field team had won its third consecutive National Indoor Championship.

"It's a strange feeling," Thacker said with a smile. "You think, 'How come he didn't tell me my hair looked that bad?' or 'I didn't really say that did I?' Actually, it's kind of embarrassing."

Whatever embarrassment Thacker might have felt was the result of the Husker sophomore's quiet modesty. The coast-to-coast recognition, in *Sports Illustrated* as well as on network television, was well-deserved.

And "it really helps recruiting," said Nebraska Coach Gary Pepin, another subject of a post-NCAA meet, television interview.

The basis for Thacker's new-found, national celebrity status was her victory over Houston's Carol Lewis in the long jump competition at Syracuse University's mas-

sive Carrier Dome.

While an audience announced at 4,727 looked on, Thacker out-jumped her world famous opponent by one-half of an inch. Lewis, ranked fifth in the world by *Track and Field News* based on last season, had only recently set the American indoor record at 22-2¼, and she hadn't lost an indoor long jump competition since the 1982 TAC championships.

Lewis was a less than gracious loser, maintaining she "didn't give a damn about this meet," complaining that her starting mark had been moved between the preliminaries and the finals, and chastising the meet officials, who were trying to accommodate television.

"This was like a movie, not a track meet," Lewis said.

The drama of the event certainly lent itself to a widescreen adaptation of Thacker's accomplishment. A scriptwriter would have struggled to be more dramatic without sacrificing credibility. Thacker made only three jumps in the meet, one to

qualify on Friday, one in Saturday's preliminary round and one in the finals 21-10¼.

Since this year's national women's championship was only the second sponsored by the NCAA, Thacker's personal best was also a meet record. A year ago, Lewis set the standard at 21-6¼ in the Pontiac, Mich., Silverdome. Thacker finished second as a freshman, jumping 20-11¼.

Thacker's three jumps were made despite tendinitis in her right knee. The pain nearly prevented her from jumping on Saturday.

Her continuing problem with tendinitis can be traced to last season. It nearly kept her out of the long jump at the Big Eight Conference Indoor Championships, which she won by jumping 21-7, five inches farther than her own previous meet record.

Thacker simplifies the injury. "Little pieces of tendon are coming away from the bone," she said. "Whenever they start to heal, I compete again and they pull loose."



One-two-three sweep...from left, Janet Burke, Merlene Ottey-Page, Angela Thacker and Coach Gary Pepin display three straight national championship trophies.

Nebraska Women Waste No Time In Bagging 3rd Title

Angela Thacker makes the most of few jumps; sprint sweep takes seven seconds and produces 24 of NU's 59 points as Merlene Ottey bows out in blazing style.

By Mike Babcock

The stress on her knee from the long jump, taking off and landing, aggravates the problem.

She can sprint without difficulty, but once she jumps and the knee begins to hurt, the tendinitis can affect her sprinting, too.

During the two weeks prior to the NCAA Championships, Thacker's only training for the long jump amounted to working on her approach to the board. "I can run through the approach," said Thacker. "But my biggest problem is technique in the air, so I couldn't work on it."

Thacker thought that by not jumping during the two weeks after the Big Eight meet, the knee would be sufficiently rested. She was wrong. On Friday's qualifying jump of 20-9¼, second behind Lewis, "it hurt about the same way it usually does," Thacker said.

However, during Saturday's qualifying round in which she jumped 20-6, "it hurt really bad," she said.

Pepin's pulse rate "zoomed up." If the knee became too painful, Thacker ran the risk of missing not only the long jump finals but also the finals of the 55-meter dash and her leg on the 4x400-meter relay.

Thacker rested for the finals. The only treatment for tendinitis, besides prolonged rest, is the application of ice, and "ice doesn't really take away the pain," said Thacker. Pain wasn't about to keep her from jumping in the finals. "As long as I know I'm not going to damage the knee or anything, I can compete."

Before she took her first and only jump in the finals, Thacker told herself: "I'm going 21 feet. I don't care if it's hurt or not."

"I knew it wasn't going to get any worse, so I just went for it."

When Thacker hit the board on her takeoff, she knew the jump was a good one. Pepin heard her hit the board, but he didn't watch the jump.

"At first, I didn't know if I even wanted to watch the event," he said. "Then I decided I'd at least watch her take off."

"I know it hurts her more to land."

The pain was less severe on Thacker's winning jump than it had been on her preliminary jump, 21-10¼, a personal best and a victory over Lewis. "I really wasn't shocked that I beat her," Thacker said. "On any day, anybody can be beaten. I knew it was a good jump."

The effort gave Thacker renewed confidence going into the outdoor season, which she hopes will prepare her for the United States Olympic Trials, June 16-24 in Los Angeles. The top three finishers in each event will qualify for the Olympics, and "my chances are pretty good," she said. "You're always skeptical until you do something."

According to Pepin, Thacker "hasn't even scratched the surface in the long jump because she can't train for the event like we want. My contention is that she's got some of the greatest leg speed of any long jumper in the world, bar none. She has absolutely blazing leg speed for a long jumper," said Pepin.



Marcia Tate

Soon after winning the long jump, Thacker showed her leg speed during a second-place finish in the 55-meter dash. The remarkable part of that was, a Husker teammate finished in front of her and another crossed the line immediately after her.

Nebraska went one-two-three and scored 24 of its championship total 59 points in less than seven seconds. "The one-two-three really helped put us in great position to win the meet," Pepin said.

No. 1, of course, was Merlene Ottey, who wrapped up her 13th individual national title in her final competition representing Nebraska. Ottey had finished second to teammate and best friend Janet Burke during Friday's qualifying heat. Ottey ran :06.73 to Burke's :06.72 to qualify. Burke had never before defeated Ottey in a race.

Burke approached Pepin about the possibility of spending a redshirt season after illness and injury kept her sidelined through most of the indoor meets. The junior from Spanish Town, Jamaica, didn't qualify for the NCAA Championships until the weekend before.

The defending NCAA champion in the 60, Burke won the 55-meter dash at Florida Fast Track Invitational in Gainesville, Fla., to qualify.

In the finals, Ottey wasn't challenged at the finish line, a fact recorded by a color picture in *Sports Illustrated*. Ottey ran :06.70. Thacker was second in :06.74, and Burke was third in :06.79.

"I knew we could do it. We've done it before," said Ottey. "I felt I had one of my better starts. When I got out and wasn't way behind everybody, I knew I had it won."

The 55-meter dash wasn't Ottey's last



Heather Smith

hurrah at Nebraska. She came back to anchor a 4x400-meter relay, which included Thacker, Jennie Badami and Marcia Tate. The Huskers, ranked seventh going into the event, finished third in 3:38.28.

Meet runner-up Tennessee won it in 3:37.04.

Ottey's unofficial split on the relay was :52.9. "I wanted to go out and give the mile relay my best shot. I think I did," she said.

"I thought Merlene really went out in style," Pepin said. "She went out like the champion she is. Her contributions to our program have been absolutely super. We'll never have another one like her. She put track and field on the map in Lincoln, Neb."

Ottey, who came to Nebraska from Hanover, Jamaica, will complete her degree in fashion design at the end of the spring semester. She's a B-plus student to whom the degree is important. "Not everybody gets that opportunity," she said. "There are seven brothers and sisters in my family, and I'm the only one who could go to college."

Ottey's next concern is the Olympic Games. She and her new husband, former Missouri high jumper Nat Page, plan to use Lincoln as a base for their training. As for the end of her career at Nebraska? "In some ways it's a big relief," said Ottey. "There's no more pressure."

There was no more pressure for the Cornhuskers after Tate finished third in the 500 meters and Heather Smith, a freshman from Hurlock, Md., finished in a third-place tie in the high jump.

Nebraska was in control and couldn't lose the meet, even if runner-up Tennessee won the final two events, which it did.

Smith was the Big Eight high jump champion and went into the NCAA competition ranked second. She cleared 5-11, short of her NU school record 6½ but high enough to satisfy Pepin. "Those points were absolutely valuable to us," he said.

That Smith was even able to compete in the NCAA meet is a story comparable to Thacker's knee injury. In the fall, Smith

Life just got BETTER™

Whether you're single, just married, or own a growing business, get the most out of life... innovative Life Insurance from Guarantee Mutual Life. Where Life just got better!

Call your Guarantee Mutual Life agent today and make your life, a whole lot better!

Life just got BETTER™
Guarantee Mutual Life
 Company

8721 Indian Hills Drive Omaha, NE 68114 391-2121

underwent arthroscopic knee surgery, and "there was some thought given to red-shirting her," Pepin said.

Tate, a junior from St. Ann, Jamaica, had finished third at 600 yards in the 1983 NCAA championships. Because of the Carrier Dome's large metric track, however, that distance gave way to the 500 meters, approximately 50 yards short of the more familiar 600.

Despite never having run the race, Tate finished in 1:11.49.

Rhonda Blanford, a junior captain from Denver, Colo., provided Nebraska's other points, finishing second in the 55-meter hurdles after qualifying fourth. Fairleigh-Dickinson's Candy Young was first.

Blanford's time was :07.72, a season best. Her goal was :07.70 or better. "I'm mad," she said with a smile. "I felt it was faster."

She finished sixth in the event at the 1983 indoor meet.

Like Thacker, Blanford enters the summer carrying realistic hopes of representing the United States in the Los Angeles Olympics.

Pepin took 13 women athletes to Syracuse, every one a potential scorer. The 4x800-meter relay team of Sue Nelson, Carol Nunnally, Lauri Wight and Nicole Landmann, didn't score points, but it did establish a school record with its seventh-place time of 8:46.45.

Even more encouraging is the fact that Nelson is a sophomore and the other three runners are freshmen. Ottey and Badami were the only seniors who made the trip to Syracuse, so the future looks bright.

The future of the Nebraska men's program, for which Pepin also has responsibility, looks bright, too. Even though only seven men qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships, and none of them scored, Pepin has clearly turned things around.

The distance medley relay team of Glen Cunningham, Gerard O'Callaghan, Dennis Wallace and Mark Adam, were in the lead until the final leg. The only reason the Cornhuskers faltered was that Adam, who ran the anchor mile, was ill but refused to tell anyone.

O'Callaghan and Wallace will return next season as will two of the other three NCAA qualifiers, high jumpers Darren Burton and Jeff Loescher. Pole vaulter and co-captain Glen Loontjier is completing his eligibility during the outdoor season, as is Adam, the defending Big Eight steeplechase champion.

Prior to the NCAA meet, Pepin thought 48 points would be enough to win the women's title. The Huskers won last year's indoor championship with 47 points. The last time they didn't win the national title, in 1981, Tennessee scored 48 points. Nebraska was fourth that year but only four points out of first.

The difference between first and fourth



Rhonda Blanford

at the 1981 AIAW national indoor meet in Pocatello, Idaho, was a case of food poisoning contracted by the Huskers' Julie Seaton prior to the final competition. As a result, Seaton was unable to run on Nebraska's 4x400-meter and 4x800-meter relay teams. With Seaton in the prelims, the Huskers ran the 4x400 in 3:40.05, more than a half-second faster than the next closest qualifier. Without her in the finals, Nebraska finished sixth.

A fourth-place finish would have given the Huskers three more points and a tie for

the team championship. Third place would have meant sole possession of the title, and four in-a-row instead of three.

Nebraska won the final AIAW national indoor title in 1982 at the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Tennessee, which was runner-up to the Huskers in both 1982 and 1983, scored 48 points again this year and had to settle for second place. "It doesn't get any easier," said Pepin. "This meet's getting tougher and tougher to win every year."

Nebraska's finish in the 55 meters made it look easy. Pepin had projected a one-three-five finish and hoped for better. "That helped us tremendously for two reasons," he said. "It put us in great position to win, and it gave us a big boost in confidence for the rest of the meet."

Thacker received a boost in her confidence during Friday's qualifying in the 55 meters when she ran a personal best :06.71. "I wanted to have a great meet and set a personal record in everything I did," said Thacker. "That (the 55 meters) motivated me."

Even though the pain in her right knee was excruciating, she expected something good to happen. Something good did.

The evidence was right there on television.

***Call on the company
with 80 years of experience.***

Lincoln Telephone.

- Long distance service with money-saving features like WATS, DDD and discount rate periods
- Expert communications consultants to evaluate your needs and implement the latest data equipment for rapid, accurate transmission of information
- Telemarketing seminars to help you increase sales and hold down your expenses
- Phone Centers offering telephones in a variety of models and styles
- Teleequipment for the disabled



***Lincoln
Telephone***

***Helping you reach
whomever you want,
whenever you want.***



In October, when the National Football League was well into definite patterns of power and poverty, the prime-time contending San Francisco 49ers awarded back-to-back game balls to a pair of ex-Nebraska Cornhuskers.

On Oct. 16, after posting a 32-13 win at New Orleans, the 49ers awarded the game ball to Roger Craig, a rookie fullback whose high-stepping enthusiasm resulted in 87 yards on only eight carries.

On Oct. 23, after scoring a 45-35 win over the Rams in Los Angeles, the 49ers gave the game ball to linebacker Willie Harper, who intercepted a pass, returned it 37 yards and saved the day against San Francisco's most bitter rival.

Harper's credentials have been well chronicled in *Huskers Illustrated*. As an 11-year veteran of the 1981 Super Bowl champion 49ers, he was San Francisco's resident graybeard...a 33-year-old who had worn the scarlet and gold longer than any other active player until he was traded to the New Jersey Generals of the United States Football League last winter.

"We called him 'Old Father,' " offered Craig. "He was the biggest leader on our team. The players expected him to keep everyone together. He'd been around so long and knew so much about the defense, the coaches expected him to coach himself."

If Harper, indeed, commands such high-level status, his opinion on Craig

Former NU Ran Into

Craig picked it up and fit right in.

should be accurate, if not more forthright than any member of the 49er coaching staff.

And, in a nutshell, it is simply this — Roger Craig was one of the NFL's fastest-developing rookies in one of the league's most complicated, but proven offenses.

"Roger Craig was our No. 1 draft choice and he lived up to our expectations because of the system that produced him," Harper said. "His success is a testimonial to Nebraska. If the foundation is solid, your house will stand. If it's not, you'll wash away."

Like one of those famous California mud slides. To Harper, it is that cut and dried.

"All kinds of players with all kinds of talent come into pro football," he said. "But it's not always ability that allows you to carve your niche."

Football in its modern version stretches beyond the weight room and 40-yard dash times.

"There's something about this game," Harper said. "It's not so much brute force anymore. Since 1976 or '77, everybody's bigger, stronger and faster. But it's a thinking man's game in pro football today, and that's why a Nebraska player is going to have the edge on almost anyone else. They come from a thinking man's program. I have guys ask me all over the league when the NFL's going to make Nebraska the 29th team. It's not all kid-

ding. They can see that Nebraska thinks better than the other top teams."

Although Craig was a high second-round choice, he was the 49ers' first pick in the draft.

"They projected him to come right in and play and in an offense as complicated as theirs, that's amazing," Harper said. "Most guys have to prove certain things before they're accepted. We didn't repeat plays very often. To play for the 49ers takes a lot of thinking. It takes a lot of discipline, a lot of homework. Roger hadn't even gotten his feet wet, but he fit right in because he came from a program that demanded a lot of thinking, a lot of discipline and a lot of homework."

"There is no doubt that the program that produced you is your key to success in pro football," Harper said. "It affects how you approach the game and how you play the game. Roger Craig is a good example. He had everything rooted in him and grounded in him. That's why he was able to pick it up so fast and become the No. 1 fullback."

Craig agrees with Harper that the system was his salvation.

"Bill Walsh is an offensive genius," he said. "With the 49ers, we put in 50 new plays a week. If I hadn't had the background of playing for Coach (Tom) Osborne, I never would have been able to keep up. If I responded to Coach (Bill) Walsh, it's only because I was able to re-

spond to Coach Osborne. The way I see it, what used to show up on Saturdays started showing up on Sundays. Nebraska had a complex offense. San Francisco has a complex offense. Preparation is the key to everything."

Despite his dramatic success as a rookie, Craig admits it wasn't easy.

"For awhile, it was really tough," he said. "You'd wake up and eat, sleep and drink football until you went to bed. Even after exhibition season, it was still go to work at 8 and get off at 5. I didn't carry a briefcase, but I took my playbook home every night. I'm glad I learned good work habits at Nebraska. If I hadn't, I would have been lost a long time ago."

By mid-October, Craig realized the biggest difference between college and pro football. The 49ers had played four exhibition games and won six of their first eight regular season games. "We'd played the equivalent of a college season," he said. "And then I realized we were only halfway through the regular-season schedule. I had to get ready for another college season, if we were going to get through the playoffs like we all expected."

Although an ankle injury slowed his early-season progress, Craig was considered a solid No. 1 as the 49ers' fullback. He maintained that status throughout the season.

Craig started 13 of the 49ers' 16 regular-season games. He rushed for 725 yards, a 4.1-yard average and eight touchdowns. His longest run was a 71-yarder at New Orleans. Craig also caught 48 passes for 427 yards, an 8.9-yard average and four touchdowns.

Craig also started both 49er playoff games, a 24-23 win over Detroit and a 24-21 loss at Super Bowl runner-up Washington. In those two playoff games, Craig rushed for only 16 yards and one touchdown, but caught 10 passes for 76 yards. Even though the 49ers were NFC Western Division champions with a 10-6 record, Craig did not make the NFL all-rookie team. In a normal year, he would have earned that distinction. But Seattle had a rookie named Curt Warner and LA had a rookie named Eric Dickerson. And that is not a normal year.

Sherman Lewis, the 49ers' running back coach, was more than pleased with Craig's progress.

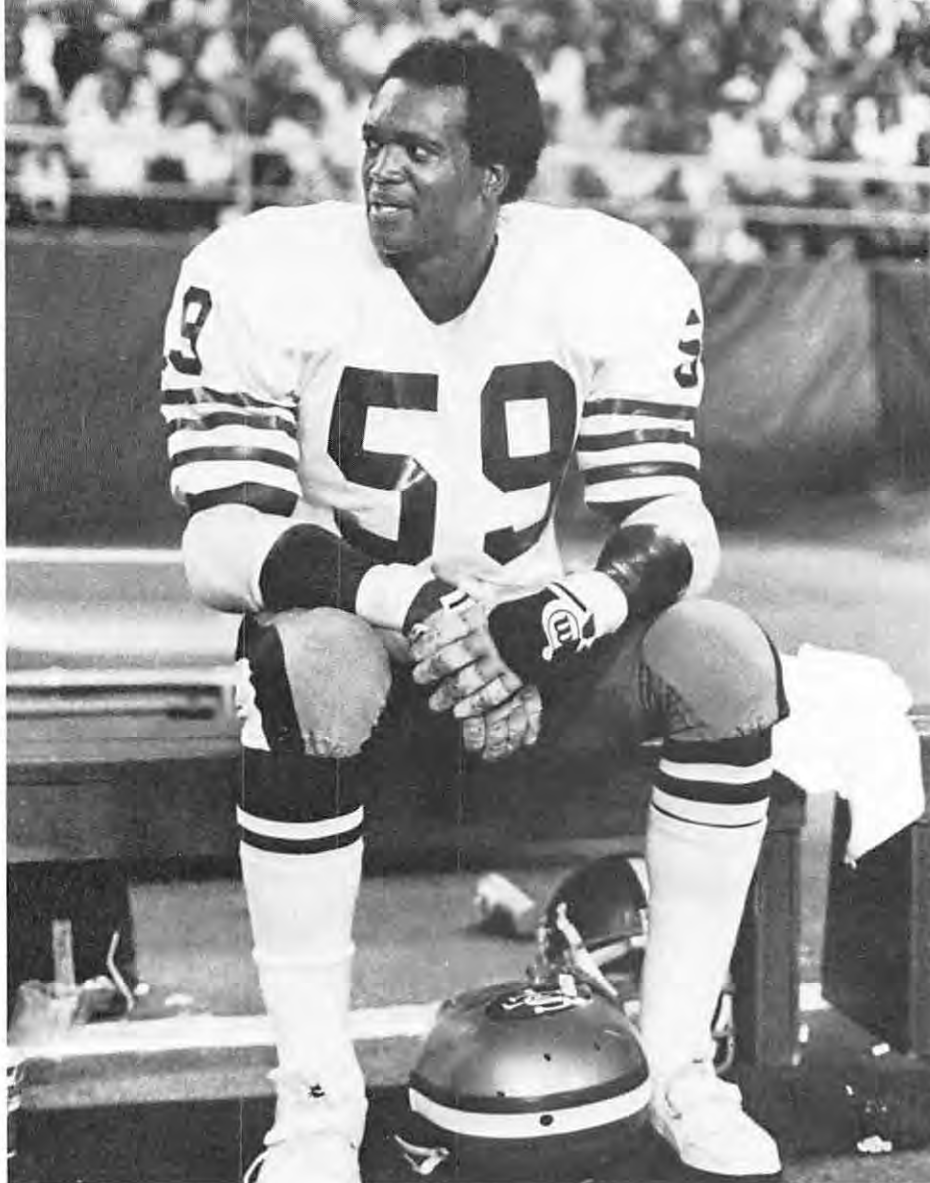
"Roger is more of a halfback-fullback than a fullback-fullback. But that's why we drafted him so high," Lewis said. "He won't be a big, bruising Earl Campbell or John Riggins. But he can run for power. He's more of a slasher. It's not his style, but he will go over people. If he stays in shape and keeps his good work habits, he can be in this league for a lot of years."

Craig, who was not reluctant to move to fullback his senior year at Nebraska to make room for Mike Rozier at I-back, fig-

Star Craig Quietly Spotlight In NFL

In a year when more heralded rookies dominated the publicity, Roger stepped into the demanding San Francisco offense and gave the 49ers a badly needed running threat.

By Randy York



"Old Father" Harper earned the right to his opinions.

Craig is a classic case of perpetual motion, in practice and in games. "When you watch him, it's almost like he's trying to make up for a lack of ability. But he certainly doesn't lack any ability," said Jerry Walker, an assistant with the 49ers' department of public relations.

"He goes full speed all the time," observed Lewis, his position coach. "One thing about Roger Craig. When he makes a mistake, he makes it 100 percent. Coach Walsh praises him all the time. Everybody likes a guy who goes all out all the time."

Like Harper, Lewis said Craig "is learning when to gear down a little bit and follow his blocking. At the first of the season, sometimes he'd go full speed and leave his blocking. Now, he's letting it develop. He was just aggressive and wanted to impress people."

That aggression caused Craig some embarrassment. In an early regular-season game against New England, he accidentally tripped 49er quarterback Joe Montana while trying to protect oncoming pass rushers.

It happened not once, but twice in the same game.

"It was a rookie mistake," Lewis said. "Roger didn't think he was that close. It'll never happen again."

It wasn't funny when it happened, but Craig can laugh about it now.

"The first time, Joe kicked my foot," he said. "The second time, I was picking up a blitz and he bumped into me and stumbled over. The linebacker was coming in and would have taken Joe's head off. He was kind of mad. That play just might be in the NFL Bloopers."

Craig, though, takes it all in stride. He meets every little obstacle he faces with a smile.

When Mike Rozier came on the Nebraska scene, Roger Craig didn't pout about him. He supported him. "That's what Nebraska football is — a team game," Craig said. "When I was a senior and Mike Rozier was a junior, he proved to me he was an All-American. He deserved the Heisman Trophy, too. He's the best."

Rozier, unaware of Craig's endorsement, returned the compliment. Asked during the week of his final home game to name the three most inspirational players he saw at Nebraska, Mike Rozier put Roger Craig at the top of the list.

Nebraska creates room for its superstars. The Huskers have a knack for making them all feel like family.

"Roger Craig is a star," Harper said. "He has the galloping style of Kermit Johnson. He even reminds me of a Calvin Hill. He has the moves, the quickness, the speed and the size. He practices hard, he

ures the experience was an invaluable stepping stone to the 49ers.

Although he didn't catch that many footballs in Nebraska's offense, the 49er scouts saw enough to be convinced that he could catch the ball with consistency.

"Roger is an all-purpose back. That's why he's with the 49ers," Harper said. "He can run AND catch AND block. He's a triple threat and believe me, there aren't that many, even in the NFL."

"Look at Eric Dickerson...great runner, poor blocker," Harper said. "Tony Dorsett...great runner, poor blocker. Wendell Tyler...great runner, not a very good blocker. Roger had to block in college and he's not afraid to do it in the pros. He'll do what he's asked. He's very, very, very coachable. A lot of guys with his ability would just say 'Give me the ball.' He's willing to do it all."

Never was that more evident than in the 49ers' 20-17 loss to the Miami Dolphins in a nationally-televised game on Nov. 6. Andra Franklin, the ex-Husker fullback who now starts for the Dolphins, had a typical productive afternoon, rushing for a

team-leading 64 yards on 19 carries.

But Craig, the eager rookie, was statistically better, rushing for a game-leading 85 yards on 18 carries. He also led the 49ers in receiving with five catches for 44 yards. Craig got the ball six straight times in what looked like a game-winning San Francisco drive. The drive ended, however, when Craig fumbled the ball at the Miami 15 with less than two minutes remaining.

Dick Enberg, the play-by-play announcer for NBC, praised Craig despite the miscue. Enberg indicated that Craig had done so much, he may have been asked to do too much. He may have been, Enberg said, the victim of his own fatigue.

Harper didn't see it that way. "Roger was trying to get that extra yard, just like he always tries to get that extra yard every play," Harper said. "While he was struggling to get it, someone stripped the ball, and it popped out. Guys have been in this league nine or 10 years and still haven't learned that. People will tell Roger that extra yard isn't always the best thing to do, but that's something he'll have to learn on his own."



LEE SAPP FORD

NEW AND USED CARS & TRUCKS
FULL PARTS & SERVICE
RENT-A-CAR

"It Pays To Drive To Ashland"

1602 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

789-7155 • LINCOLN

342-6767 • OMAHA

944-3367 • ASHLAND



ASHLAND STATE BANK

COMPLETE MODERN BANKING FACILITIES
CHECKING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNTS
SAFE DEPOSIT BOXES • ALL TYPES OF LOANS
VISA & MASTERCARD • SAVINGS CERTIFICATES
DRIVE-IN BANKING

"You Really Rate At Ashland State"

2433 SILVER STREET, ASHLAND, NE

944-2111 • ASHLAND

341-5123 • OMAHA



LEE SAPP LEASING

LEASING PLANS TAILORED TO FIT YOUR NEEDS FOR HOME — AUTO — BUSINESS — LIFE — HEALTH
DAY — WEEK — MONTH — LONG TERM

9902 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-3113



LEE SAPP INSURANCE

FOR HOME — AUTO — BUSINESS — LIFE — HEALTH
COMPLETE INSURANCE COVERAGE

9904 SOUTH 148th STREET

OMAHA, NE 68138

402/895-0990



SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS

125 APPLEWOOD MALL CENTER BLDG.

OMAHA, NE 68105

SELL & MAINTAIN COMPUTER SYSTEMS & RELATED EQUIPMENT
SOFTWARE PACKAGES — FORMS

402/422-1234



Roger found family reunions around the NFL.

over the National Football League. "Toby Williams (another Nebraska rookie) started for New England against us," Craig said. "He tackled me a couple of times."

Ex-Huskers have a common bond. "I'd block George Andrews (of the Rams) and he'd tell me: 'Nice block, Rog.' A few times, I had to tell him to take it easy. After we played the Rams, George and Vince Ferragamo came over to talk to Willie and me. It was just like family out there."

"I talked to Andra and Bill Barnett at Miami, Jarvis Redwine after the Minnesota game, Russell Gary at New Orleans and Bruce Mathison after the San Diego game. I'm really happy for him," Craig said. "I'm happy for all the Nebraska players."

Craig believes several 1983 Huskers will bring what he brought into the NFL — good work habits from a strong program.

"I really got a lot out of being a player and a student at Nebraska," Craig said. "There are so many great players there, yet everybody realizes he has to wait his turn. That's why everybody wants to be recruited by Nebraska. That's why everybody wants to walk on. It's the best program in the country for young athletes. They've been strong for the last 20 years and they'll be strong for the next 20 years because Nebraska does things the way they're supposed to be done."

Huskers In The NFL Draft

1983

Dave Rimington, Center, Round 1, Cincinnati

Roger Craig, Running Back, Round 2, San Francisco

Jamie Williams, Tight End, Round 3, New York Giants

Todd Brown, Wide Receiver, Round 6, Detroit

Jeff Merrell, Nose Tackle, Round 10, San Francisco

Toby Williams, Defensive End, Round 10, New England

Bruce Mathison, Quarterback, Round 10, San Diego

1982

Jimmy Williams, Round 1, Detroit Lions

Rodney Lewis, Round 3, New Orleans

Henry Waechter, Round 7, Chicago

Phil Bates, Round 7, Detroit

Tom Carlstrom, Round 12, New York Jets •

runs hard and he concentrates. He's so dedicated in the weight room, he even makes an old guy like me feel guilty. He has confidence. Some believe more than others. He believes in himself."

Craig would add one important footnote to that assessment. "I believe in myself, and I believe in God," he said. "I try not to think about the bad things in the past. I live each day and enjoy the gifts I've been given."

Craig hopes he never takes his gifts for granted. "I can't in the NFL," he said. "All the guys are superstars every week. You have to love what you do. It's a job and if you don't like it, you won't perform."

It was intense, but not quite that intense at Nebraska. "We always studied and prepared for everybody the same at Nebraska. But there were times when you could beat somebody on raw talent," Craig said. "In the pros, you have to study every little weakness of every player. Study habits and work habits...Nebraska

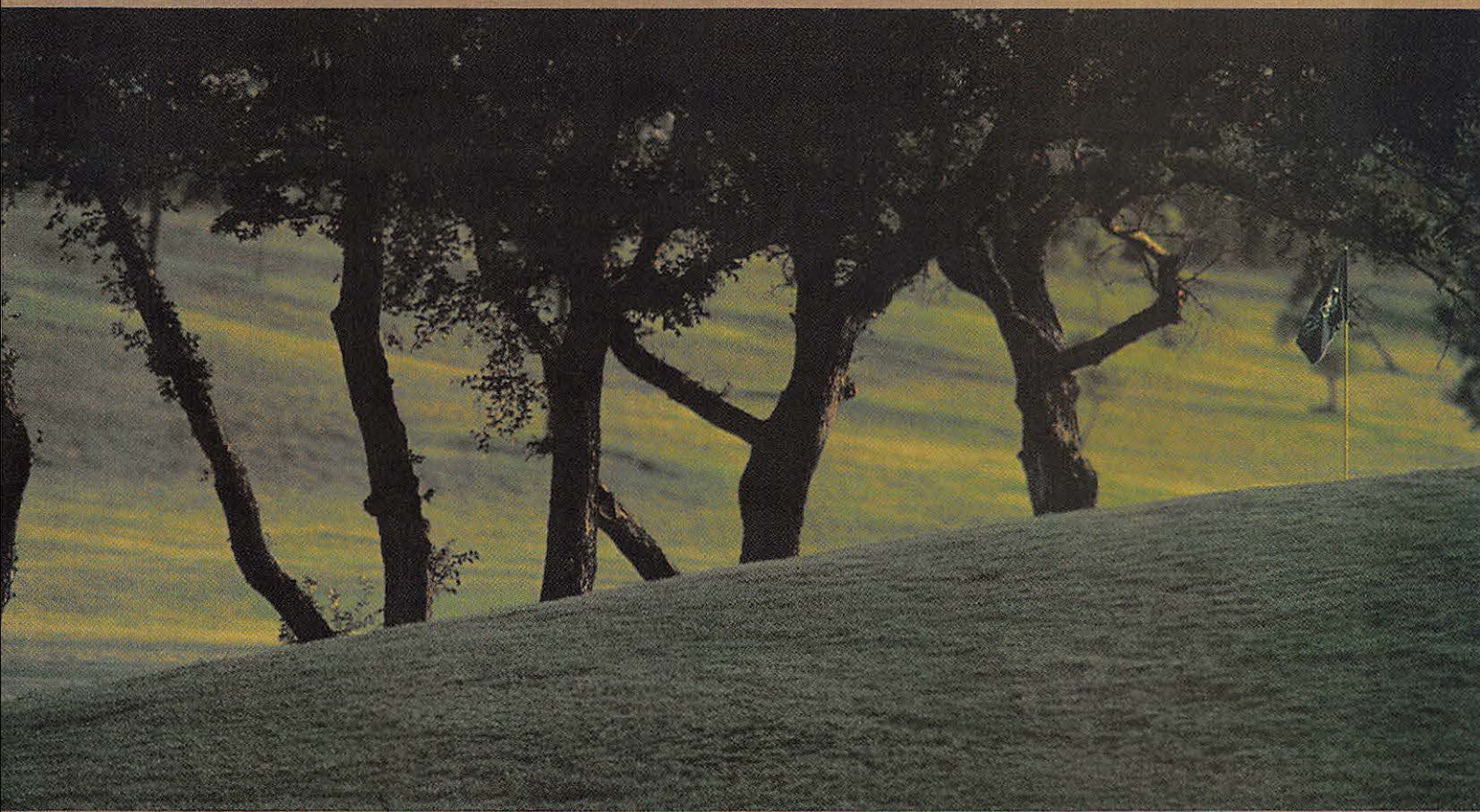
had the best."

They are as ingrained in Craig's brain as the 49ers' diligent attention to detail. "We worked so much on discipline at Nebraska," he said. "When I fumbled against Philadelphia, I was thinking of doing grass drills for Coach (Mike) Corgan," he said. "I could hear his voice ringing in my helmet on the ground."

According to Craig, "49er fans remind me of Husker fans. They're always sold out and they're always behind you. They keep track of Nebraska. They know it's football country and they respect the program. So do the players."

San Francisco teammate Randy Cross, an offensive lineman, told Craig that Nebraska linemen "play like pros. He watched Dean Steinkuhler knock a guy completely off his feet one time. He said he couldn't believe how big and how strong that line was. Just watching, he could tell it had discipline and character."

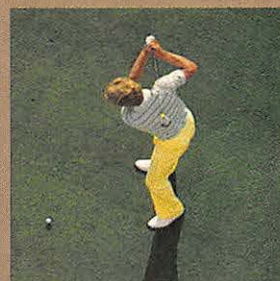
Craig sees that character dispersed all



The air of Four Seasons in Dallas

A RESORT WITH AN EXHILARATING AURA.

At The Mandalay Four Seasons Hotel, the atmosphere is relaxed and refreshing. The ambiance is uplifting and enlivening. And the recreational opportunities, limitless. Golf on championship greens. Play racquetball, squash, or a match of tennis. Go swimming, horseback riding, or simply rest and relax. All this makes for a resort unlike any other. A very special sports resort offering unparalleled recreation through the Las Colinas Sports Club. This weekend experience it all. Packages begin at just \$129. Discover the exhilarating aura of Four Seasons in Dallas at Las Colinas. It's in the air at The Mandalay Four Seasons Hotel.




Four Seasons Hotels
TEXAS

Inn on the Park, Houston (Galleria Area) • Four Seasons Houston Center (Downtown) • The Mandalay Four Seasons Hotel (Dallas at Las Colinas) • Four Seasons San Antonio

For reservations call 214-556-0800, 1-800-828-1188, or call your travel agent.

No one lets up, not in games, not in practice. Not for even a minute. These are determined young men, high achievers who seldom allow themselves to relax. Even if they were so inclined, it would be almost impossible. Someone would know it if they sloughed off. You don't win 12 straight games by dogging it.

"I know there's always a camera on," said offensive tackle Scott Raridon, who ended his Nebraska football career in the Orange Bowl, an All-Big Eight senior.

Raridon, a 6-3, 290-pounder, waved his arm from the north end zone to the south end zone in an empty Memorial Stadium and asked a rhetorical question: "Where can you hide in here?"

Obviously, nowhere.

"Every Monday morning I know I've got to sit down with the coaches and watch films," Raridon said while he was still suiting up. "The camera doesn't lie."

The camera ran each day while the Cornhuskers practiced for Raridon and his mates last fall and it runs for the holdovers and the new crop currently bidding for recognition in spring drills. "Everything the first team does, except for one 15-minute station, is filmed," Raridon said.

The camera rolls from the opening kickoff until the final gun on game day. Monday morning, the whirl of a projector repeats every success and every mistake for all to see, players and coaches alike.

There are no secrets; nothing is over-

looked.

"Sometimes you think you had a bad game, but when you see the films, you think, 'Hey, I didn't play all that badly,'" Raridon said. "Other times, you find out you graded lower than you thought."

In either case, "The films never lie," he said. "You can kid yourself, but they never do."

Film. Reels and reels of film. Miles of it.

Film from practice and games.

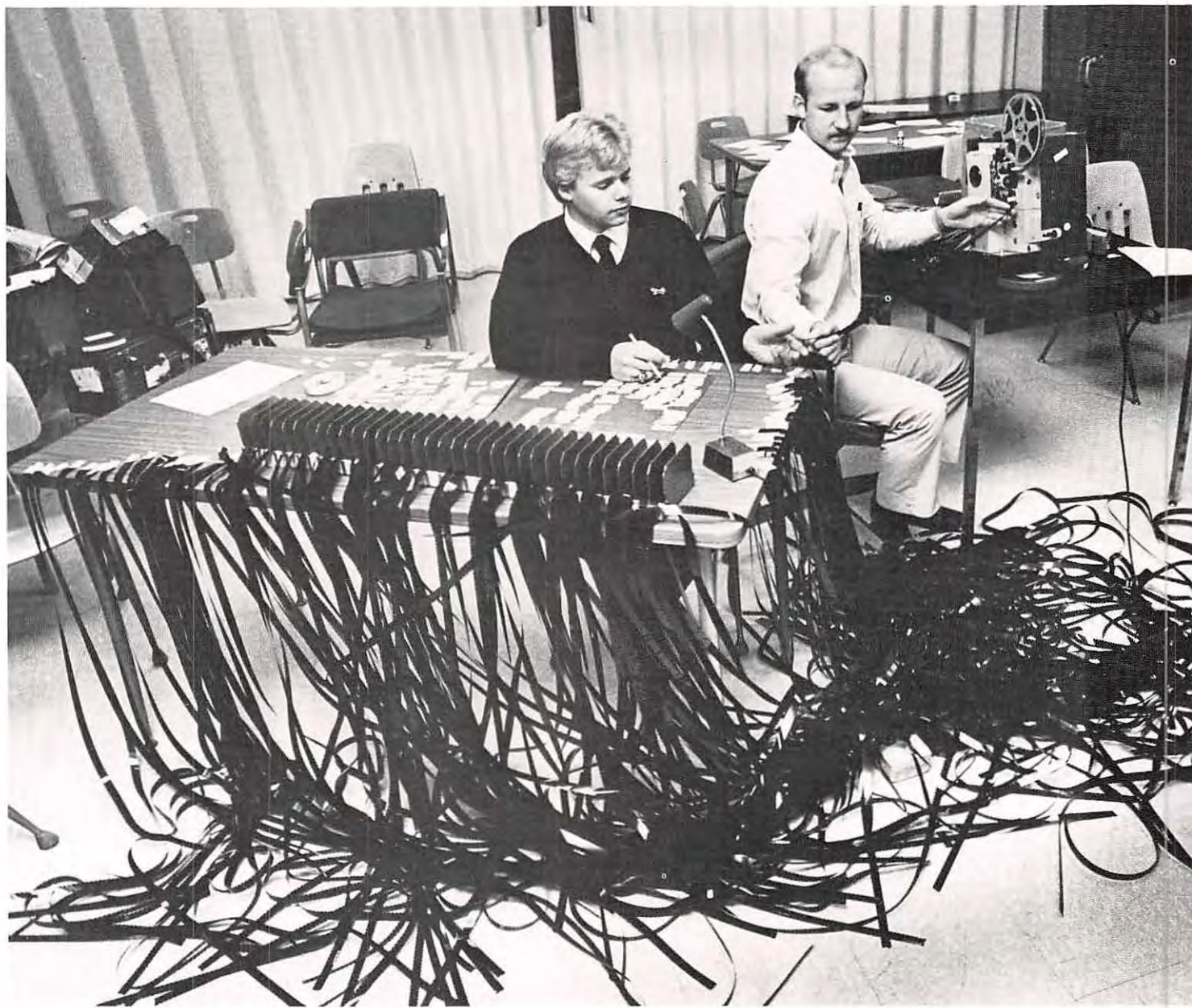
Film of potential high school recruits.

Film of future opponents.

Black and white film. Color film.

Film so grainy one player can't be distinguished from another.

Film run in slow motion. Stop action. Forward and reverse. Over and over.



Football coaches study more film in a season than a film critic will see in several years. It's the lifeblood of every successful college football program. Without it, each week's game is a little bit like going on a blind date. And coaches aren't much for surprises, at least not those surprises that could have been avoided by watching more film.

Nebraska Linebacker Coach John Melton, a veteran of 22 seasons with the Cornhuskers, understands the importance of game films.

Each week during the season, an NU graduate assistant is sent to scout Nebraska's upcoming opponent. Ostensibly, the scout is in the press box for a first-hand look at the next foe. He takes notes and

diagrams plays, with X's and O's. But, in fact, his primary responsibility is much less difficult and extremely more important than such observations.

After the game film is processed, the Cornhusker graduate assistant boards the first commercial flight Sunday morning, or hops in the car if that is quicker, and returns to Lincoln with a copy. He is a courier, and that which he carries is vital to the interests of those who send him.

Craig Bohl, who coordinates the Husker freshman defensive team, has been such a courier. Bohl understands the importance of the task. "Like Coach Melton says, if the plane's going down, throw the film out the window," he said.

Overstated perhaps, but the game film must get through.

Each Sunday morning during the season, Nebraska Head Coach Tom Osborne and his staff arrive at the South Memorial Stadium offices between 7 and 8 a.m. and immediately begin grading films of the previous day's game. By 10:30, the grading is complete.

After a church break, dinner with families and Osborne's TV show taping and weekly press conference, the projec-

tors are busy again with the first showing of the next opponent's most recent game. The session, critical to the game plan, lasts three to four hours.

At approximately 6 p.m., Bob Logsdon, general manager of the Lincoln Legionnaire Club and a long-time Nebraska booster, arrives to serve dinner to the coaches. Invariably, Logsdon is accompanied by his "assistant cook," NU Athletic Director Bob Devaney.

"I can remember only one time when Bob (Devaney) didn't come along with him," said Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride.

Logsdon and Devaney bring with them not only food, but the results of the Sunday afternoon pro football games. Although players they recruited and coached may be performing in those games, Nebraska's coaches rarely are able to watch. All those films to digest.

After dinner, at approximately 7 p.m., the coaches meet to formulate the week's game plan. By midnight, the day's work is well on the way to winding down. Conservatively estimated, it has lasted 12 to 15 hours.

Osborne allows time for church, but he



Winning Husker-Style Is No Haphazard Matter...

**Victories pile up in direct proportion to hours
of sleep lost and miles of film watched as
Huskers prepare for each game in
championship fashion.**

By Mike Babcock

Graduate assistant
Lynn Schoening and
Jayvee Defensive Co-
ordinator Craig Bohl
break down miles and
miles of film.



Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride loads up another reel.

work through a few fundamentals and do the things they know they can do.

"They really don't have a plan, so they don't start getting anything accomplished until Tuesday or even Wednesday. By then, we feel, it's too late. We believe so strongly in repetition that we have to know everything we're going to do by the time we hit the practice field on Monday afternoon.

"That way, hopefully, we can get in the repetition."

As the in-season routine progresses, Osborne meets with his defensive coaches at 7 a.m. on Monday. During the 1½ hour session, general decisions, based on Sunday night's meetings, are made regarding a plan of defense for Saturday's opponent.

Osborne begins by asking the defensive coaches: "Have you thought of what you want to do?"

At 8:30 a.m. Monday, Osborne leaves the defense to McBride and begins meeting with his offensive coaches, taking, at most, a few minutes to field a conference call from the Big Eight Conference Service Bureau. The offensive meeting continues until noon.

Osborne spends his Monday noon hour at the Extra Point Club luncheon, summarizing the previous game, providing a capsule "scouting report" on the Cornhuskers' upcoming opponent, answering questions and showing game film to a roomful of businessmen-boosters.

Then it's back to the South Stadium, where he meets with his quarterbacks and goes through Saturday's game films with the team prior to the beginning of practice. Monday's drills, conducted without full pads, last until 5:15 p.m.

Monday night, the coaches return for more meetings.

Another 12 to 15-hour day winds down.

The schedules for Tuesday and Wednesday, in the morning and afternoon, are essentially the same. "By Thursday, we're pretty well set on what we're going to do," Osborne said.

Wednesday night after practice, Osborne spends an hour answering telephone calls on a statewide radio show. Thursday mornings, he drives to Omaha for a booster breakfast.

Friday's practice is brief and consists primarily of stretching.

Friday night, when the Huskers are at home, Osborne and his staff spread out and attend state high school games before heading to the Nebraska Center on the University's east campus. There, the top 60 Cornhusker players will spend the night.

Throughout the week, Osborne makes

time for interviews and and phone calls. When a team is ranked No. 1 in the country en route to a 12-0 season, the demands become enormous. Few coaches in the country are as cooperative as Osborne.

Somehow, he finds the time. His time is seldom his own.

The head coach's days are chock full, from long before sunrise to long past sunset. "The fact is, from mid-August to about Feb. 10, we (NU coaches) work seven days a week, 12 to 14 hours a day. Our coaches have put in a year of 40-hour weeks by the end of those six months," Osborne said.

For Charlie McBride, Sunday is the longest day of the week during the fall. Nebraska's defensive coordinator begins his Sundays at 8 a.m., and he doesn't leave the office for good until 2:30 or 3:30 Monday morning.

Mondays aren't much better. They run from 7 a.m. to midnight. "Some Monday nights I get so tired, I might as well not stay," McBride said. "I just have to leave and get out of here."



The hours pile up in a hurry during staff meetings: Clockwise from Head Coach Tom Osborne, standing, are Cletus Fischer, Milt Tenopir, Gene Huey, Frank Solich and Dan Young.

doesn't think he and his staff can afford to take off the rest of the day. "I'm for having Sundays off as much as anybody," he said. However, "the facts of life in football" require a seven-day work week during the season.

The busiest days of the week are Sunday and Monday. "We believe you can't come out here on Monday and Tuesday and have much of a practice if we don't know what we're going to do," said Osborne. "Some teams go out on Mondays and just

He says that, but rarely leaves.

According to Craig Bohl, grad assistant, "Charlie's a real workaholic. He's a workhorse. He's also real organized."

Osborne's staff shares one characteristic — a willingness to expend extra effort to achieve greater results.

The Sunday schedule helps explain why Nebraska's coaches are seldom out-worked.

After the coaches grade the previous day's game, the next opponent's film is broken down, each play charted and dissected. McBride takes one quarter, Bohl takes one, Defensive Ends Coach George Darlington takes one and grad assistant Dave Butterfield takes one.

Meanwhile, Melton breaks down the opponent's kicking game, develops a report on its personnel — position changes, injuries, etc. — and compiles its statistics. Secondary Coach Bob Thornton takes apart the foe's passing game.

All the information is then added to a comprehensive breakdown of at least three other games. Bohl, Butterfield and Jason

Martin, another grad assistant, have completed the breakdowns of those games during the preceding week.

"We always work one week ahead," Bohl said.

The time required for the breakdown varies from one assistant to another, depending on how long he's been at it.

Bohl, the veteran, can complete a game film "in three or four hours," he said. The others require more than five hours "unless someone passes a lot," Martin said. "Then, we're in trouble, and it might take six hours to break down the film."

All the information is prepared and fed into a computer Thursday afternoon. On Friday, the coaches have a computer print-out to which Sunday's breakdown is added.

While the complete four-game breakdown is being compiled, the coaches get a general scouting report on the upcoming opponent from the graduate assistant who attended the game and served as film courier. Bohl, Martin and Mark Mauer handled those duties last season.

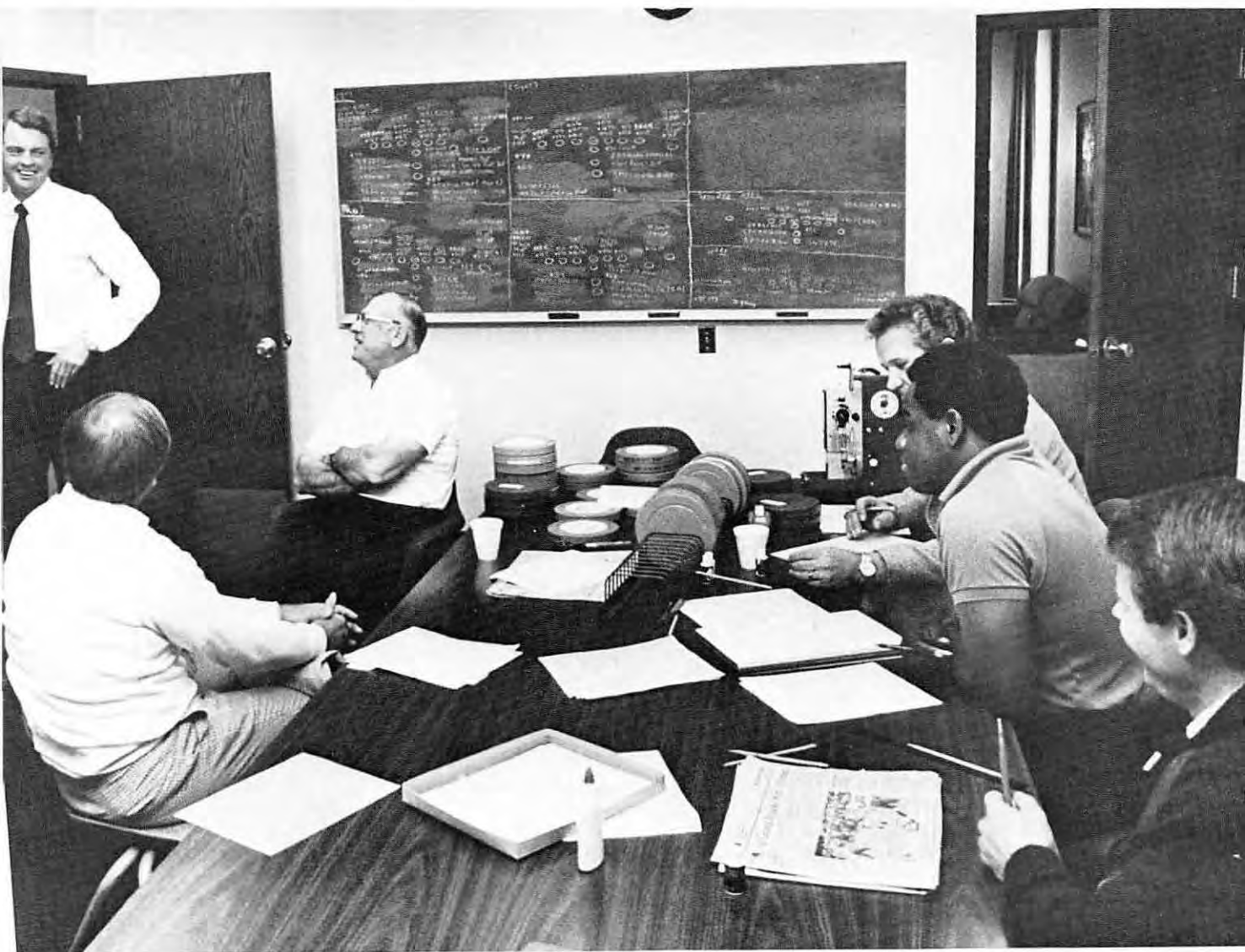
Freshman Coach Dan Young, whose teams at Omaha Westside ran out of the wishbone, scouted Wyoming, a wishbone team.

The next step is to compile a scouting report for distribution to all the coaches and players. McBride oversees that task, which generally involves a 40- to 50-page booklet.

Every aspect of an opponent is covered. It begins with a summary, written by the scout.

The kicking game is broken down, identifying, among other things, the kickers and punt snapper, how quickly the ball gets from the snapper to the punter, the hang time of the punt, how deep the punter stands, the splits between linemen, fake punts utilized by the opponent.

Next, "We try to give our players some idea of what the opposition will run," McBride said. This section includes diagrams of the opponent's eight favorite inside plays, eight favorite outside plays, eight preferred passing plays, four favorites running on the goal line and four fa-





Secondary coach Bob Thornton checks out the film library.

afternoon, and much work still must be done. Late into the night, after meeting with his defensive coaches regarding a preliminary plan, McBride watches film of the opponent.

It's usually around three in the morning before he shuts off the projector and rests his bleary eyes.

Monday morning, the game plan begins to take shape, and McBride begins to diagram the opponent's plays on notecards for use during practice. A scout team, comprised mainly of redshirted players and lower-unit reserves, attempts to approximate the rival offenses by looking at the notecards in the huddle and then doing its best imitation in practice. That gives the defense the desired repetition.

The defensive scout team, meanwhile, is doing its best impersonations for the Husker offense.

In any week, McBride will diagram 150 to 200 plays for the scout squad. On Saturday, the Cornhusker Blackshirts may see that many plays or formations that were not covered in practice.

But the decisions are made on past tendencies.

"You can't get into a guessing game," he said.

On Wednesday, Thornton goes through a checklist of all the offensive sets an opponent has shown during the season in order to make certain the defense will know how to react. The checks are particularly important to the linebackers and the secondary because "the linebackers set the fronts, and the secondary changes the coverages," McBride said.

All of Thursday morning is spent formalizing the game plan and identifying what the offense is likely to do at any point on the field, first-and-10, first-and-long, second-and-long, second-and-medium, second-and-short, and so on.

On Fridays, "If you need a haircut, you can do it in the morning," McBride said. The rest of the day is as structured as the rest of the week.

Of course, if the Huskers are traveling, the week's schedule is compressed even more.

How can anyone maintain such a rigorous schedule?

"If you don't enjoy it, you can't do it," McBride said.

Whenever there's a break in the routine, McBride said, "you draw more cards and look at more film."

favorite passes on the goal line.

From there, the report moves to a section in which the opponent's tendencies are described, mathematically, out of any formation, "so we can tell if a team runs more to the outside or the inside, whether it's right-handed or left-handed, which linemen it depends on most, what is the favorite play at each hole," McBride said.

It also includes percentages of pass-to-run plays and inside-outside plays.

The opponent's tendencies also are categorized according to "every set

they've ever run from," McBride said. "A lot of coaches might criticize us and say, 'We'd never give our players all that stuff,' but we believe in giving players everything we can."

McBride doesn't want to see bewildered looks on the faces of his players when they walk off the field after a game. He wants them saying: "It was just like what we worked on in practice."

It is still Sunday, however, and McBride's day is not over.

Practice doesn't resume until Monday

THIS LITTLE AIRLINE MEANS BUSINESS.



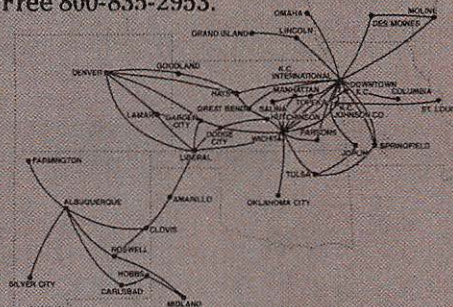
To get right down to business, Air Midwest serves your part of the country like nobody else can. Over 200 times every business day, Air Midwest carries people and packages to and from more than 30 cities in the Midwest and Southwest. All at 300 miles-per-hour.

And our convenient connections with other airlines make it simple and affordable for you to fly all the way, no matter where you're going. Just one low-priced ticket and one baggage check at Air Midwest, and you can be on your way to almost anywhere in the world!

More flights, more destinations, freight and parcel delivery at the "speed of flight" ... when it comes to service, we don't mess around.

For schedules or reservations, call your

travel agent or your local Air Midwest counter: or call Toll Free 800-835-2953.



1982 COMMUTER / REGIONAL AIRLINE OF THE YEAR
Awarded in worldwide competition to Air Midwest by
Air Transport World magazine



air midwest
THIS LITTLE AIRLINE MEANS BUSINESS.

The tester took the tests last season.

"At my age, it just about killed me," said Nebraska strength and conditioning Coach Boyd Epley.

Epley "enrolled" in his winter conditioning course for Cornhusker football players a year ago, following the four-days-a-week, six-week workout schedule and taking the tests at the end of those six weeks.

His purpose was to evaluate the program. "Anything I found too easy or not as intense as I had intended was eliminated," Epley said. "As a result, this year's winter conditioning class was more demanding."

Based on the test data, it also was more productive.

Once again, the Cornhuskers emerged with more strength and more speed, going into spring practice, than any previous group in Nebraska history. The trend con-

tinued. "We're bigger, stronger and faster" has become Epley's standard remark when he announces the test results.

Everyone expects him to say it.

These were the numbers for the winter of 1984:

Average bench press: 301.4 pounds per player, up from 290 at the beginning of the six weeks.

Average 40-yard dash time: 5.01 seconds, down from 5.04.

Average vertical jump, a measure of explosiveness: 29.12 inches, up from 28.46. Five years ago the team average in the vertical jump at the start of winter conditioning was 25.95. The increase has been dramatic.

Average lift on the hip sled: 675 pounds, up from 648 and, like everything else, "higher than ever before for this time of year, with this number of people," said Epley.

The test results following winter condi-

tioning are based on a greater number of athletes than those compiled prior to the beginning of fall camp. Consequently, the average test scores are lower. Many athletes who complete the tests at the end of winter conditioning aren't around for fall practice. Some quit, others are grudgingly cut in order to maintain realistic and workable numbers.

Hence, the spring bench press average of 301.4 is 39 pounds lighter than the team average based on last fall's test results. Nevertheless, progress is discernible, dramatically so. "We've seen it in everything we measure," Epley said. "This team has worked hard."

"That's why I'm smiling."

Epley's winter conditioning class is one of two "developmental" stages in Nebraska's year-round football program. The other occurs during the summer, with the players being responsible for maintaining their own rigorous training schedule.



"We're trying to help each athlete reach his full potential, physically," said Epley. "We're looking for physical changes, which aren't going to occur during the season." Once practice begins, the players are asked to follow a training regimen that allows them to maintain levels of strength, speed and endurance.

Spring practice "is an evaluation period. The coaches aren't looking at specific opponents. They do that in the fall. In the spring, they're trying to find out who the players are going to be, and we want them (the players) to be in good shape," Epley said.

According to Epley, strength is confidence.

Even so, data from the strength and conditioning tests can be misleading if the numbers are taken to represent something they're not supposed to represent. "You never know how the tests will relate to what happens on the football field," he

said.

"There are still a lot of things that aren't indicated in the testing. You don't know whether a guy can handle the physical contact or whether he can learn the plays. You can't tell how he'll react under pressure. Even though a guy is big and strong and fast, he might not be a good football player." That's for the coaches to decide.

At a certain point, statistics can lose their usefulness.

No matter how impressive the efforts, "you're probably not going to replace Mike Rozier, Turner Gill, Irving Fryar and Dean Steinkuhler. It's difficult to replace that kind of talent," said Epley.

"You never know how much (football) talent an athlete has."

Doug DuBose, a redshirted sophomore I-back from Uncasville, Conn., has football talent magnified by considerable physical skills. That was evident in this year's post-winter conditioning tests.

The 5-11, 187-pound DuBose amassed 1,393 points on Epley's athletic index, a

measure of all-around physical ability. "We apply points to performances in the tests, something like the decathlon," said Epley.

Former Cornhusker All-American Irving Fryar set the NU team record at 1,468 points. Only three Big Eight football players have ever scored higher: Oklahoma's Buster Rhymes, a wingback, and Thomas Benson, a linebacker; and Missouri defensive tackle Jeff Gaylord.

DuBose had Nebraska's highest athletic index at the end of winter conditioning, even though "some of the tests weren't up to his best," Epley said. DuBose set the team record in the vertical jump at 38 inches, but on test day, his best jump was 36½.

His best effort was in the 40-yard dash. DuBose ran :04.59, timed electronically, to tie redshirt freshman Albert Lewis for the fastest 40 of the day. Converted to a more familiar hand-held time, that's approximately :04.39. Not long ago, athletes who could run 40 yards in 4.5 seconds or

Epley Sings Familiar Tune: Huskers Bigger, Stronger, Faster

Doug DuBose leads Nebraska gridders in winter conditioning tests; Lewis, Morrow, Weber saluted for 'tremendous showing.'

By Mike Babcock

Doug DuBose staked a claim to speed title as pro scouts put the stopwatches to him.



Anthony Thomas was a record setter in the weight room.

faster, hand timed, were considered exceptional.

On test day, 13 Cornhuskers besides DuBose and Lewis ran :04.7 or better according to Epley's automatic-timing device. Jon Kelley, a freshman running back out of Lincoln, Neb., Southeast High School ran :04.60. Jason Gamble, a split end from Santa Barbara, Calif., who received a scholarship following first semester, ran :04.61.

Defensive back Eddie Gray, a walkon transfer from Butler County Community College in El Dorado, Kan., ran :04.63; and Paul Miles, who set the I-back record at :04.51, ran :04.64, the same as split end Rob Schnitzler, a redshirt sophomore from Battle Creek, Neb.

Miles' :04.64 was three-hundredths of a second slower than he ran during the pre-testing, but "you've got to remember, these guys have been training very hard for six weeks, and not all athletes will peak at the same time," Epley said. Besides, "when you're as fast as Paul Miles, you're not going to be able to run your best every time."

The 5-10 Miles entered spring practice weighing 200 pounds, and even though he

didn't lower his 40 time, he did improve in other areas. His vertical jump went up a half-inch, to 34½. He lifted 750 pounds on the hip sled, up from 700, and he increased his bench press from 325 to 360 pounds. With a total of 1,309 points, Miles easily ranked in Nebraska's top 10 according to the athletic index.

Jeff Smith, the likely successor to Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier as the Cornhuskers' No. 1 I-back, didn't rank in the top 10 on the athletic index, but the senior-to-be from Wichita, Kan., doesn't need such evidence to prove his dedication to Epley's program.

When he arrived at Nebraska, the 5-9 Smith weighed 175 pounds. His bench press was 210 pounds; his hip sled was 510 pounds; and, his vertical jump was 23 inches. Four years later, Smith weighs 195 pounds, and his bench press has increased to 345 pounds, his hip sled is 740 pounds, and his vertical jump is 30 inches.

Smith was hampered by an ankle injury on test day, and his electronic 40-yard dash time was an unrepresentative :04.80. Prior to winter conditioning, he was timed in :04.78. "We're very proud of Jeff for the progress he's made," said Epley. "He's set

a tremendous example." Smith has never missed a workout.

With Smith, Miles, and DuBose heading the list, Nebraska has considerable talent available at I-back.

The test results underscore that.

Epley could have predicted good test scores for athletes like Smith, Miles and DuBose. But during each testing period, several players whose names aren't familiar also turn in good scores.

This year, that group included Albert Lewis, a running back from Las Vegas, Nev., who missed his first year at Nebraska with a knee injury; offensive tackle Tom Morrow, a senior walkon out of Pius X High School in Lincoln, Neb.; and, center Scott Weber from Columbus, Neb. "Those three people deserve some attention for their efforts," Epley said.

"They had a tremendous testing day."

Lewis, 6-0 and 225 pounds, ranked second to DuBose on the athletic index, with 1,381 points, and was at the top of the list on the weight index, a point total which takes into account an athlete's body weight.

If Lewis could have equaled his position record in the vertical jump (36½) on test day, he would have broken Mark Schellen's team record in the weight index. Schellen's point total was 1,507.

Lewis amassed 1,504 points. In addition to dropping his 40 speed from :04.76 to :04.59 during the six weeks, Lewis improved his vertical jump from 34½ to 36 inches; he increased his bench press from 360 to 375 pounds; and he lifted 780 pounds on the hip sled, up 65 pounds from the beginning of winter conditioning.

Morrow, 6-3 and 259 pounds, broke his own NU record for left tackles in the 40-yard dash by running :04.93, down from :05.04. "That's very fast for someone who weighs 260 pounds," said Epley.

Morrow improved in every other area as well. His vertical jump went from 28 to 28½ inches; his seated shot put increased from 30 feet to 32-10; his bench press went from 400 to 415 pounds; his hip sled increased from 750 to 800 pounds; and his time in the agility run dropped from 6.16 to 6.01 seconds.

"He really improved himself, physically," Epley said.

Weber, 6-2 and 260 pounds, broke three of four position records during the testing and now holds all four. His bench press was 450 pounds; his 40 time was :04.94; his vertical jump was 33½ inches; and his hip sled was 910 pounds.

According to Epley, when the Big Eight position records are officially revised, Weber's :04.94 may become the conference standard. "We don't know that Scott

Jeff Smith is proof positive that the NU strength program works.

has proved himself on the football field, but he's done what we like to see in the weight room," said Epley.

Weber was an unfamiliar name among the linemen who excelled during the testing. Senior-to-be Mark Behning, an offensive tackle, was not. "You always expect Mark Behning to do well," Epley said.

Behning, 6-7 and 289 pounds, ran 40 yards in :04.99 and was one of 10 Cornhuskers to bench press more than 400 pounds. He attempted a team record 480 pounds but had to settle for 470, which didn't qualify as a position record because the form wasn't perfect."

He holds the record for left tackles, 460 pounds.

Weber lifted 465 pounds, but because of form, he was credited with a best of 450 pounds for the day's testing. Fullback Paul Anderson benched 430 pounds; middle guards Ken Graeber and Mike Radnov each bench pressed 425 pounds; and Morrow benched 415.

Danny Noonan, a freshman out of Lincoln, Neb., Northeast High School, broke Rod Horn's record for defensive left tackles, benching 395 pounds. Noonan was credited with one of four 405-pound bench presses during the testing, but again, the form wasn't perfect.

The other three Cornhuskers who bench pressed 405 pounds were middle guard John Reinhardt, center John Nichols, and Scott Martinmaas, a 5-10, 209-pound walkon fullback from Papillion. Martinmaas also was among the athletes who ran under :04.7 in the 40. His time was :04.68.

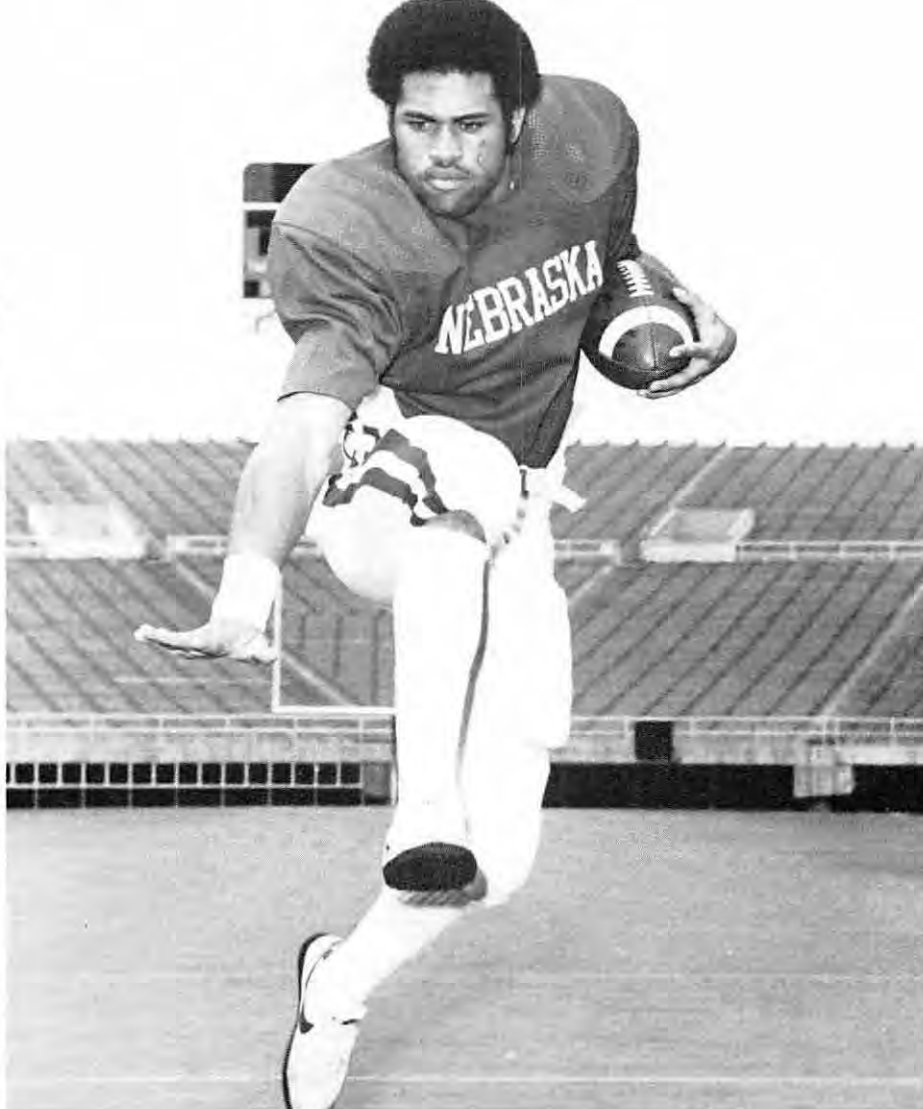
In all, 20 position records were set at the end of winter conditioning, including offensive guard Anthony Thomas' team record on the hip sled. Thomas, who is attempting to switch to tackle during the spring, lifted 960 pounds on the hip sled, five more than Mark Schellen's previous mark of 955 pounds.

Prior to Schellen, Andra Franklin, now the starting fullback for the Miami Dolphins, held the record at 950 pounds.

Four others lifted 900 pounds or more on the hip sled this year. Weber had 910. Behning, fullback Scott Napier, and offensive guard Kevin Lightner all lifted 900. Fullback Paul Anderson "would've been there, too," Epley said. "He lifted 870, and then tried to set the position record by lifting 965."

Anderson didn't succeed at the record. Nevertheless, "he's a very strong fullback," said Epley.

Freshman McCathorn Clayton proved



he's a very strong quarterback by breaking his own record in the bench press, improving from 315 to 325 pounds. Clayton holds all four major records for quarterbacks, including :04.64 in the 40-yard dash, 34½ inches in the vertical jump and 715 pounds on the hip sled.

In addition to the position standards established by Thomas, Weber (three) and Clayton, other record-setting efforts on offense this season were: Morrow's :04.93 in the 40; right tackle Stan Parker's :04.88 in the 40; split end Jeff Krantz's 37-inch vertical jump; left tackle Tim Rother's 33-inch vertical jump; right guard Kevin Lightner's 36-inch vertical jump and 900-pound hip sled; and wingback Shane Swanson's 750 on the hip sled.

Besides Noonan's 395-pound bench press and 31½-inch vertical jump, the defensive position records included: left tackle Jim Skow's :04.91 in the 40; right end Brad Tyrer's 36-inch vertical jump; monster back Dan Casterline's 36-inch vertical jump and 805-pound lift on the hip sled; and left end Terry VanHorn's 780 hip sled.

An athlete's schedule is divided so that "he works on speed, Monday, does heavy

conditioning on Tuesday, takes Wednesday off, does speed work again on Thursday, and finishes with conditioning on Friday," Epley said.

The daily workouts are coordinated with an athlete's lifting so that on speed days, he lifts to improve his chest and legs, and on heavy conditioning days, he lifts to improve his shoulders, arms and back.

"That allows for greater progress at a faster rate," said Epley.

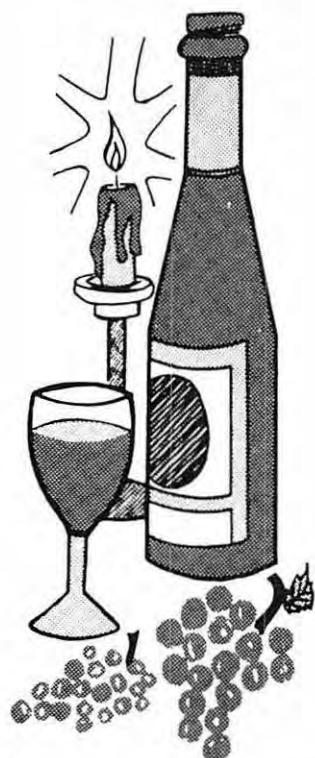
Last season, Epley also changed his test for endurance. Instead of requiring players to run a mile and a half in a predetermined time, based on position, Epley now tests them in the 300-yard shuttle run.

The athlete makes six continuous round-trip sprints of 25 yards, rests for five minutes, and repeats the process. The ability to recover is important.

Scores are the average of the two runs, a total of 300 yards. DuBose completed the test with an average of :51.30 this season.

Epley says he's satisfied, for the most part, with the 300-yard shuttle run. Not only did he design it, but he also tried it. And in Nebraska's winter conditioning program, that's the ultimate test. •

"ONE OF THE
LARGEST
WINE SELECTIONS
IN THE U.S.A."



N STREET LIQUOR

DISCOUNT PRICES • CASE DISCOUNTS
FINE LIQUORS & WINES & BEER
LINCOLN'S HEADQUARTERS FOR KEGS
YOUR COMPLETE PARTY
HEADQUARTERS — WEDDINGS
RECEPTIONS — ETC. — ICE
GLASSES — SNACKS
BARTENDER SERVICE AVAILABLE
Owners — Dick & Susan Stoehr

**"LINCOLN'S LIQUOR
SUPERMARKET"**

5400 SQ. FT. OF SHOPPING SPACE

477-6077

19th & "N" St.
Plenty Of Off Street Parking
Shopping Carts - 7 A.M. To 1 A.M. Daily

Potpourri

Continued from page 14

women's basketball team, she'd like to achieve her real dream ...play point guard at Nebraska.

"That's what I really want to do; run the show out front and trigger the attack," said Powell, who has spent her first three years in a Husker uniform at pivot and power forward.

"I want to be out front or at least on the wing where I can use my speed and ability," Powell said.

That opportunity has never presented itself at Nebraska. Necessity has forced Powell to battle inside.

"They list me at 5-10, but I'm really only 5-8," she said. "But I was always expected to play like a 6-footer. I had to because we don't have any tall girls."

Powell is hoping those days are over. If NU Coach Kelly Hill recruits the players she's pursuing, "Nebraska's finally going to have a team that looks like a real basketball team instead of a lot of people running around in red shorts," Powell said.

If it happens, "maybe I can finally play guard or at least move to small forward, where I played in high school," Powell said.

Whether a change develops or not, Powell appears destined to replace Kathy Hagerstrom as the Nebraska women's all-time leading scorer. With one season remaining, Powell already ranks second on the all-time chart with 1,488 career points.

Powell's goals, however, are more team-oriented than individual-oriented.

"We were 16-12 this season, but we didn't make the final four in the Big Eight," Powell said. "That's my first goal to make the final four and win 20 games. Then we'll finally get a bid in the NCAA Tournament."

Such a bid could allow Powell to make the transition from All-Big Eight to some kind of All-American consideration.

"I'm not going to be modest," Powell said. "I think I am All-American material. But we've got to do things as a team before we get to something like"

Hill appointed

Kelly Hill, the interim head coach for the 1983-84 Nebraska women's basketball team, has been named full-time head coach for 1984-85.

The appointment was made by Dr. June B. Davis, NU's assistant athletic director and women's athletic director, and approved by the NU Board of Regents at its April 14 meeting.

"Kelly has done a real good job for both Nebraska and the basketball program this past season and we are looking forward



Mark Schellen didn't take long to find himself a starting job in the USFL, making a giant contribution in the turnaround of the New Orleans Breakers.

to having Kelly serve as head coach," Davis said.

"She has some excellent ideas and philosophies concerning basketball and we feel that she will be able to accomplish many positive and substantial things for our entire women's athletic program."

To her players, Hill is known as "Attila

Lincoln, Nebraska.

World capital of the rotationally-molded plastics industry.



An industry leader: Snyder Industries, Inc. recently began production in its additional rotational molding facility, located at 6401 North 63rd in Lincoln. This new facility houses the world's largest rotational-molding machine! A machine capable of producing one-piece, seamless vessels up to 17½ feet in diameter or up to 30 feet in height! A container capable of holding 22,500 gallons!

Rotational molding: Of all plastics manufacturing today, rotational molding represents the leading edge of technology. It is the most demanding, most advanced science in the field. And it's where the men and women of Snyder Industries have excelled ... become the leaders in plastics manufacturing.

Early in our 25-year history, we began experimenting with a new plastic material known as polyolefin. It showed remarkable physical properties. Under precise temperature control and through the rotational molding process, polyolefin particles can be fused to shape and chemically bonded together like links in a chain. The result is a plastic container with exceptional durability, long life and freedom from weathering, rust and corrosion.



Other specialties: Snyder plastics are best known on farms all across the nation and into Canada. We also have an Industrial Products Division that is moving up fast in sales. We can make rotationally-molded products for almost every industrial liquid handling need. Our Custom Engineered Products Division includes a top-notch design staff that can supply a special plastics container or components for a wide variety of applications. And the Snyder name is also known in architectural circles. For years we've been a leading supplier of reinforced fiberglass bathing modules.



Local support helps: Thanks to our people and the support of the Lincoln community and surrounding areas, Snyder Industries has proved successful. Bringing recognition, employment and business investment back home where quality of life is so meaningful.

AGGRESSIVE LEADERSHIP IN PLASTICS MANUFACTURING

SNI **SNYDER**
industries, inc.

4700 Fremont, Box 4583 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68504
Phone: 402-467-5221



Eric Ognibene



Reynaldo Castro

the Hun" because of her strict discipline and demand for hard work.

"We all call her 'Attila,'" said Cathy Owen, Nebraska's junior guard and first-team Academic All-Big Eight player.

Hill considers it an affectionate label. "I've been given a key chain that has Attila on it," she said. "Someone even gave me a wood engraving with Attila on it for my desk. I felt the role was necessary to turn the attitude around here."

At 25, Hill becomes one of the youngest head coaches in major college basketball.

"Obviously, I'm very pleased with the appointment and opportunities which are ahead of me," she said. "I want to express

appreciation to the players and those who supported me during my interim term.

"I hope they continue to back our program. We're going to continue to work hard towards our goals of winning the Big Eight Conference and becoming one of the nation's most respected teams."

This past season, the Huskers finished with a 16-12 record and the best winning percentage in four years....

Ahmann named

Mark Ahmann, former sports director for KOLN-TV/KGIN-TV in Lincoln and Grand Island, has been named assistant sports director for KCAU-TV, the ABC affiliate in Sioux City, Iowa.

Ahmann will work with Gene Sherman, 65, the station's sports director who helped launch his sportscasting career.

Ahmann, sports director in Lincoln from 1972-80, has been working as a sportscaster for KNOP-TV in North Platte, Neb....

Lockett sets record

Frank Lockett, the starting split end on Neb-

raska's 1979 Orange Bowl team, set a single-game receiving record for the United States Football League.

Lockett, a wide receiver for the New Orleans Breakers, caught nine passes for 225 yards in a nationally-televised win over Jacksonville.

The following weekend, he caught five passes for 155 yards, including a game-winning 43-yard touchdown in a sudden death overtime victory over Chicago.

A 10th-round draft choice of the Green Bay Packers in 1979, Lockett also logged time in the NFL with San Francisco and Miami.

In 1981, his football career looked like it might have come to an end. The one-time transfer from Contra Costa Junior College in California spent the '81 season with the Napa Valley Bears, a semi-pro team in the California Football League.

Last year, Lockett found a home with the Boston Breakers and went to New Orleans when the franchise was sold.

"I'm glad the Breakers gave me a chance," Lockett said. "I was beginning to think that maybe I just wasn't supposed to be a pro football player."

Lockett admitted he had incentive to make this a memorable season. One week before the season started, his 25-year-old brother, Mike, died after undergoing surgery for a brain tumor.

"I'm really playing this season for two people," Lockett said. "I'm dedicating this season to him. He supported me all the way through and never gave up on my career."

Paul Manasseh, director of public relations for the Breakers, calls the team the "New Orleans Cornhuskers."

Three other ex-Huskers join Lockett in the starting lineup: Mark Schellen at fullback, Ray Phillips at inside linebacker and Dan Hurley at offensive tackle.

Ex-Nebraska wingback Anthony "Slick" Steels is a running back and fullback for the Breakers. Quarterback Jeff Quinn and nose tackle Jeff Merrell, two more ex-Huskers, are on the Breakers' taxi squad....

Hartung second

Jim Hartung, who led Nebraska to four NCAA gymnastics championships with two all-around titles and one runner-up finish, turned in one of the most impressive performances of his career in the American Cup at New York's Madison Square Garden.

Hartung scored a 59.0 to finish second in the all-around, .20 behind American teammate Peter Vidmar, the former UCLA gymnast.

Two Chinese standouts, Yank Yueshan and Li Ning, finished third and fourth, respectively, with scores of 58.70 and 58.50.

Hartung's score was only .05 of a point off his all-time best all-around score posted in a triangular meet with the Russians and Japanese in December of 1982.*